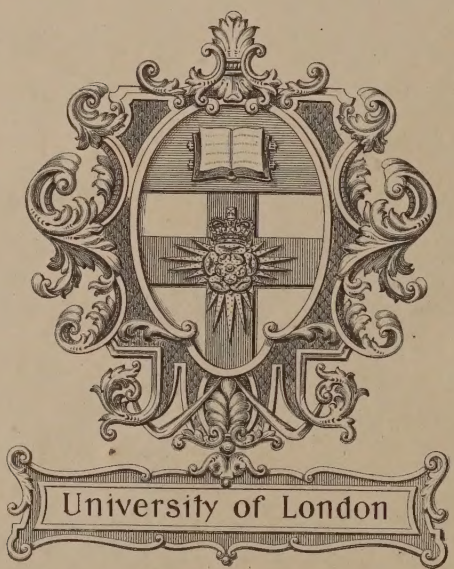
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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

THIRTY-NINE VOLUMES.

—*(13.)*—

COLONIES.

JAMAICA.

Session

1 *February*——10 *August* 1866.

VOL. LI.

1866.

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THIRTY-NINE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

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JAMAICA.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 7 February 1866;—*for*,

"COPY of the CORRESPONDENCE in relation to the Removal of Mr. *G. W. Gordon* from the Magistracy in *Jamaica*, and the Circumstances connected with the *Morant Bay* Lock-up case."

Colonial Office,
2 March 1866.

W. E. FORSTER.

(*Mr. Thomas Potter.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
5 *March* 1866.

SCHEDULE.

DESPATCHES FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

No. in Series.	Date and Number.	Subject.	Page.
1	8 July 1862 (No. 41).	Transmitting correspondence with Mr. G. W. Gordon, relative to the lock-up at Morant Bay, and to charges of cruelty preferred by Mr. Gordon against the Rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and stating that he had felt it his duty to remove him from the Commission of the Peace.	3
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COPY of the CORRESPONDENCE in relation to the removal of Mr. *G. W. Gordon* from the Magistracy in *Jamaica*, and the circumstances connected with the *Morant Bay* lock-up case.

Despatches from the Lieutenant Governor.

— No. 1. —

(No. 41.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

No. 1. Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G. 8 July, 1862.

King's House, 8 July 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 490, 5 Sept. 1862, page 37.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two letters addressed to your Grace by Mr. G. W. Gordon, together with copy of a correspondence between that gentleman and the Governor's Secretary, as well as a letter from the Custos of Saint Thomas-in-the-East, reporting the result of a special session of the peace which I had caused to be held in that parish, for the purpose of inquiring into certain charges and accusations preferred by Mr. Gordon against the rector and parochial authorities.

Mr. Gordon to Mr. Austin, 7 May 1862.
"For the Duke of Newcastle," 7 May 1862.
Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon, 12 May 1862.
Mr. Austin to Mr. Barclay, 12 May 1862.
Mr. Barclay to Mr. Austin, 28 May 1862.
Pauper Expenditure. Rev. Mr. Cook to Mr. Austin, 23 May 1862.
Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon, 13 June 1862.
Mr. Gordon to Mr. Austin, 14 June 1862.
Mr. Gordon to the Duke of Newcastle, 14 June 1862.
Mr. Austin to Mr Barclay, 20 June 1862.
Mr. Barclay to Mr. Austin, 4 July 1862.

2. Your Grace will observe, from a communication which I have caused to be made to Mr. Gordon, copy of which I also enclose, that I have felt it my duty to remove Mr. Gordon from the commission of the peace, a step which I trust your Grace will approve.

3. The delay in transmitting the two letters to your Grace has been caused by the references and investigations which were required to enable me not only to report to your Grace, but to come to the decision whether any person should be allowed to hold Her Majesty's Commission who was capable of such deliberate and wilful misrepresentation as that of which Mr. Gordon has been guilty.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Mr. *Gordon* to Mr. *Austin*.

Sir, St. Thomas-in-the-East, 7 May 1862. Encl. 1, in No. 1.

I HEREIN beg to hand you a letter, open, for his Grace the Colonial Secretary, to be forwarded, as I believe is required, through his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and to which I most respectfully entreat attention.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. W. Gordon.*

To H. W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary.

(Copy for His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.)

Sir, Bath, St. Thomas-in-the-East, 7 May 1862.

I HAVE respectfully to bring to the notice of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor the following facts, gravely requiring consideration, as regards the administration of justice in connection with prison regulations, the condition of the poor, and the collection of debts:—

1st. The absence or non-attendance of justices frequently causes delay in dealing with cases, and the consequent detention of parties accused; and at other times such parties do not readily obtain bail. They are then confined, by what authority I cannot find out, in a miserable place called the "lock-up," at Morant Bay. This place is one of the most disgusting and revolting to human nature that can be imagined. Want of cleanliness, stench enough to produce immediate sickness and disease, unwhitewashed, and nasty, it is indeed a sink-hole; and yesterday, when Justices Walton and Paterson visited with me, it was in this wretched state. Prisoners, and frequently several are sent in, are for days and weeks locked up together in one horrid room, where they all mingle together when sent in, and perform the calls of nature in the same place on the ground, and imbibe its miserable stench; enough to breed pestilence.

It would hardly be believed that on the 6th day of May 1862 such a state of matters could be witnessed in a British colony in connection with prison discipline. But this is not all! The rector of the parish actually sent in a poor sick man, on what authority I cannot find out, nor do I know how the rector could do so at all; and this wretched creature was up to last night, from the 26th April last, actually living in the privy of this unventilated place; there he sat, and drank and slept there; better had he slept the sleep of death than undergo this slow process of poisoning, which it really is. And I submit that the Attorney General has a good action in this case, and I do truly and humbly hope it will be the pleasure of his Excellency to cause inquiry. The instincts of humanity plead in this case. Nor is it a singular one; other matters may be related which would show the sad state of affairs, especially with reference to prisons, existing in Jamacia, and which calls for immediate attention of the Government.

Many of Her Majesty's best, though humble and unprotected subjects, have had to encounter the death-hole of Morant Bay lock-up, and also the misery of other similar prisons, not of reform, but of degradation and death.

2d. In the district prison at Morant Bay the prisoners generally have lately been engaged in cleaning out the cesspool, which had not been emptied for four or five years previously, and was in a horrid state. I submit that this is not quite consistent with prison regulation. (I may here remark that the supervisor of this prison is one of the most able and exemplary I know.)

3d. In this extensive parish there is not a single poor or alms house or hospital; the consequence is that in cases of accidents to visitors, travellers, sailors, or any of the inhabitants engaged in estates' work, there is no place of reception and relief, and frequently the cause of humanity is outraged to an extent which is actually barbarous, and truly it may be said that "the poor is not cared for."

4th. There is no jail for debtors, nor any jailor, so that when a debtor is taken, there is no proper place of custody. The officers, I believe, have attempted to put debtors in the District Criminal Prison, and it is worthy of inquiry how debtors are used in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I submit only these few points at present, and I am fully prepared to show the grounds of my complaint, for, in the execution of my duties, I have often found hindrances and anomalies and enormities which baffle my ideas of common consideration and justice.

Trusting that his Excellency will be pleased to consider what I have stated as induced only by a sense of humanity and propriety.

H. W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. W. Gordon.*

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Gordon.*

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 12 May 1862.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you that his Excellency will forward your letter of the 7th instant to his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Barclay*.

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 12 May 1862.

I HAVE the honour, by desire of the Lieutenant Governor, to enclose herewith a letter received from G. W. Gordon, on the subject of the jail and the condition of the poor, &c., in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and to request you to report upon the allegations and statements made.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin.*
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Barclay* to Mr. *Austin*.

Sir, Kingston, 28 May 1862.

I TRANSMITTED a copy of Mr. G. W. Gordon's letter of the 7th instant, addressed to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to the magistrates at Morant Bay, and having obtained the necessary information, I proceed to report upon the same, and shall take up the several charges seriatim, so far as they are tangible and seem deserving of notice.

2. First, that the lock-up at Morant Bay is a sink-hole of filth and nastiness, in which the prisoners perform the calls of nature on the ground, and imbibe its miserable stench, enough to breed pestilence, &c. &c.

3. The description is anything but correct. The building was originally used as a workhouse for the parish, and instead of being a "sink-hole" is much too large for the purposes to which it is now applied. On the ground floor at the west or lee end is a roomy privy for the accommodation of the inmates (few in number, and often not one), and upstairs is a large room on the left, with benches or beds, where persons imprisoned for debt have been usually lodged.

Second, that the rector of the parish actually sent a poor sick man into this wretched place, upon what authority I cannot find out, &c. &c.

4. The facts of this case are, that a poor wandering stranger, far gone in dropsy, and since dead, called at the rectory late in the evening, seeking food and lodging, and the rector, having no means of accommodating him, sent him to the lock-up, with directions to the keeper to receive him, and have his wants provided for; and more, he sent and informed the churchwarden, who immediately sent 4 *s.* to procure necessaries, when the rector considered the case off his hands, having done all he could.

5. Such are the facts upon which Mr. Gordon trumps up a criminal charge against the rector, and suggests having him put in the hands of the Attorney General.

Third, that in the extensive parish, there is not a poor or alms house or hospital, or jail for debtors. That the poor are not cared for, &c. &c.

6. The extensiveness of the parish has most likely been the cause of no alms or poor house having been provided for it, the people having insuperable objections to be removed to a distance from their homes and their friends. But the best possible proof that the poor have not been neglected is afforded by the statement which I send herewith, showing that the pauper allowances for the parish have, during the last four years, been increased from 480 *l.* to 720 *l.*

Fourth, that the absence or non-attendance fo justices frequently causes delay in dealing with cases, and the consequent detention of parties accused, and at other times such parties do not readily obtain bail.

7. It may be true that the justices do not attend the petty courts so regularly as could be wished, but parties incommoded in this way are very well able to make their own complaints, and generally ready enough to do so. I am not aware of any authority Mr. G. W. Gordon possesses to set himself up as a censor-general of the island. His recent intermeddling with the district prison at Morant Bay, which was brought to the notice of Governor Darling, is another case in point.

8. In conclusion, I beg to add that, it being my anxious desire to have the business of the parish correctly and properly conducted, I have requested Mr. T. W. Jackson, the stipendiary justice at Morant Bay, to keep a watchful eye on what is going on, and to inform me if he sees anything wrong.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Barclay,*
Custos of Saint Thomas-in-the-East.

PAUPER EXPENDITURE of the Parish of ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST.

		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1857–58.	Medical attendance	60	–	–			
	Maintenance	400	–	–			
	Provisions to churchwardens	20	–	–			
					480	–	–
1858–59.	Medical attendance	75	–	–			
	Maintenance	625	–	–			
					700	–	–
1859–60.	Medical attendance	70	–	–			
	Maintenance	600	–	–			
					670	–	–
1860–61.	Medical attendance	100	–	–			
	Maintenance	600	–	–			
					700	–	–
1861–62.	Medical attendance	120	–	–			
	Maintenance	600	–	–			
					720	–	–

Copy from the Records, Treasury, 28 May 1862.

(signed) *A. Barclay,*
Custos, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Rev. Mr. *Cooke* to Mr. *Austin.*

My dear Sir, Parsonage, Morant Bay, 23 May 1862.

I HAVE within the last few days been favoured with a perusal of Mr. Geo. W. Gordon's letter to you of the 7th instant, in which my conduct with regard to having sent a poor man to the lock-up in this town has been shamefully and untruthfully represented to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with a recommendation to place me in the hands of Her Majesty's Attorney General. Without wishing to attach greater importance to any communication emanating from such a source than it deserves, still I feel it is due to my character and position in the Church to offer to his Excellency a plain statement of all the facts connected with this matter. On the 26th ult., about 6 p.m., a poor man came to me, soliciting alms, and a place in which to lay his wearied and diseased body. There being no parochial asylum to which he could be sent, rather than allow him to remain in the open streets all night I sent this poor houseless wanderer, first providing him with the means of support for a day or two, to the lock-up for the night. When doing this the understanding was that the man if able to travel should come again to me, and I would, if there was a vessel to sail for Kingston, give him a passage, and a letter to procure him admission into the public hospital.

2. I heard nothing more of the man until the 3d instant, when the keeper called on me, and reported he was still in the lock-up, unable to move. I at once gave him a note to Mr. M'Kenzie, junior, acting as almoner for his father, to give the keeper 3 *s.* for the support of the man, which was complied with; and I naturally concluded, as I believe was the fact, he would report the case to his father, under whose supervision, as churchwarden, the lock-up is placed. Such being the case, I considered any further interference on my part unnecessary.

3. On the 6th instant Mr. Gordon stated to me that he had visited that morning the lock-up, and was surprised to find I had sent a poor sick man there, who, he said, was confined in the privy (a palpable falshood, for he was under no restraint whatever), and that the place altogether was all that was filthy and abominable. I was certainly greatly surprised at hearing this sad account of the lock-up, and determined on visiting the prison, which I did a day or two afterwards, taking with me the parochial surgeon for the district. We found the place appropriated for male prisoners clean, and free from everything that could offend the eye or the senses. The unfortunate man whose case has offered this mock philanthropist so prolific a subject for gross and wilful misrepresentation was certainly lying on the seat of the privy, from which the keeper informed us he could not induce him to remove. I may here mention, by the way, Mr. Gordon had himself failed to induce him to change his situation. Dr. Murrogh having examined the man, reported he was suffering from dropsy and chronic disease of the kidneys, and that his case was hopeless. These are the facts of the case, so far as affects myself; and it is the first time, during an incumbency of upwards of 32 years, I have ever been accused of wanting in humanity to my poorer brethren. This piece of slanderous malevolence was reserved for Mr. George W. Gordon, from whose lips or

from

from whose pen nothing can emanate that can at all injure me in the good opinion of any one to whom he is known; nor should I have deemed Mr. Gordon or his slanders worthy of aught save the most profound contempt, had he not addressed himself to the Queen's representative, to whom I consider this explanation is respectfully due.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *S. H. Cooke.*

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Gordon.*

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 13 June 1862.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor, with reference to your letter of the 7th ultimo, to say that, having duly inquired into the circumstances connected with the statement which you made, his Excellency finds that the charge of cruelty against the Rev. Mr. Cooke, the rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, is altogether unfounded, and that your general allegations as to the state of the prisons at Morant Bay are greatly exaggerated, both of which circumstances you had full opportunity of ascertaining for yourself.

2. His Excellency will be glad to learn that you can offer any explanation of your having made such serious and groundless charges.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Gordon* to Mr. *Austin.*

Sir, Kingston, 14 June 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge your Despatch, No. 771, of yesterday's date, intimating that his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, has duly inquired into the charges set forth in my letter of the 7th ultimo, with reference to the case of the unfortunate sick man (since dead) who had been consigned to the "lock-up" at Morant Bay, and found the same to be "unfounded," and that my general allegations as to the state of the "prison" (no doubt "lock-up" intended) are greatly exaggerated, and also that both of which circumstances I had the full opportunity of ascertaining for myself; and further, that his Excellency will be glad to hear that I am able to offer "any explanation of having made such serious and groundless charges." I respectfully submit that I have made "serious" but not "groundless" statements, and entreat that his Excellency will do me the justice to suspend the judgment in these matters till I am able to supply other testimony in corroboration of the statements which I made entirely on the principles of truth, and from no desire of unnecessarily censuring any party. I beg to state that my feelings of honour and truth are solid, and, therefore, as his Excellency has not been pleased to acquaint me upon what evidence I have been so painfully and unduly censured, I am glad of the opportunity "afforded me of offering any explanation." As I wrote from the result of personal observations, also witnessed by other parties, I shall, with all convenient speed, be able to adduce further testimony sustaining the statements! Assuring his Excellency that my motives are not personal, but purely arising from a sincere desire for good, and the relief of suffering humanity,

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. W. Gordon.*

To the Duke of *Newcastle,* Secretary for the Colonies, &c. &c.

May it please your Grace, Jamaica, 14 June 1862.

SINCE my last communication through his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor I have received a Despatch from his Excellency's Secretary, a copy of which, with my reply, I now beg to submit to your Grace; and as I shall be able, I trust, fully to substantiate the statements which I made respecting the Morant Bay lock-up, and the unfortunate man (Thomas Williams), since dead, I trust that your Grace may be pleased to suspend, for the present, judgment on this matter, which, small as it appears, embraces points vital to the well-being of society in this part of Her Majesty's dominions, and involves interests concerning an important class of Her Majesty's subjects for whom the British Government and people have always exercised jealous care, as affecting the grand scheme of negro emancipation; and, if the fact of the introduction of coolies be considered, the subject becomes still more grave. One of these unfortunate creatures I saw yesterday on the public road all but naked, and others in Kingston are in a most wretched state. It then becomes how far the Government is answerable,* and it is time that the sanitary condition of the island should be considered. I have further to state that, a few days ago, in attending at the court-house in Kingston, I found two coolies, who had the day previous been put on their trial and remanded, and brought up again before the sitting magistrates; the charge was for stealing, but could not be proceeded with for want of an intrepreter, because it

* *Sic* in Orig.

was stated there was no means to pay one, nor any provision in the law. The two men were then dismissed, and let loose again on society. This surely is a case of intolerable grievance, not only to the party making the charge, and that party was in the name of the Crown, but to the whole community, and must tend to complete ultimate disorganization. We are taxed to import these people to work individual private gentlemen's estates, then they become mendicants, after being here uncared for, and then we are to be further taxed by their acts of spoliation, and no remedy afforded or restraint put upon them, as it proved in court. What must the end of all this be? The sitting justices on this case were G. B. Smith, Esq., senior magistrate, and H. J. Bicknell, Esq., stipendiary magistrate. I now implore the righteous interposition of your Grace. I shall not on any future occasion trespass on that valuable time which I am aware important and public business otherwise demands, but this subject will lead your Grace to deductions worthy of notice.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Gordon.*

P.S.—Your Grace will not fail to perceive how I have been dealt with. Instead of a candid investigation, I am misrepresented in my own face, by stating that I made a charge of "cruelty" against the rector. Indeed I said nothing of "cruelty," but I referred to proceedings which really existed, but which are now termed "altogethe unfounded." They were in very deed almost tantamount to a sentence of death, as the dismal sequel has since proved, and for which the party or parties concerned, as may be found out, ought, I humbly submit, to be dealt with. Second, the dry facts about the miserable lock-up are now stated as "greatly exaggerated." How is this shown? Third, no reference is made to the entire want of hospital accommodation. Fourth, nothing is said respecting the want of a debtors' prison. I do really feel anxious that the truth may be arrived at, and such measures of reform adopted as are now called for, and for which I claim the approbation of good government; but, alas! at present to pine over evils seem all that can be done in miserable Jamaica.

G. W. G.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Barclay*.

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 20 June 1862.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to transmit herewith the enclosed copy of a letter received from Mr. George William Gordon, and to state that as Mr. Gordon still maintains the accuracy of his allegations, and says he is prepared to prove them, his Excellency requests that you will convene a special session of the peace in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and submit Mr. Gordon's letter to the justices, and call upon them to inquire into and report fully upon the statements made by Mr. Gordon, in accordance with the provisions of the Act 20 Vict. c. 11, s. 20.

2. The Lieutenant Governor further request that you will give Mr. Gordon due notice of the day appointed for the meeting of the justices, in order that he may be personally present to prove his case, if able to do so.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*, Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Barclay* to Mr. *Austin*.

Peace Office, Morant Bay, Saint Thomas-in-the-East,
Sir, 4 July 1862.

I HAVE to report, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that the justices met in special sessions yesterday; that your Despatches of the 20th and 23d June, with the several enclosures therein stated, were submitted to the sessions, and are now annexed to the proceedings. That Mr. Gordon was called upon to support his charges by evidence on oath.

2. That the sessions was occupied from 11 o'clock a.m. till 6 o'clock p.m. in the investigation.

3. That Mr. Gordon was allowed every scope and latitude in his endeavour to establish his charges.

4. That the justices inspected the lock-up, and found it in good and clean order and condition.

5. That Mr. Gordon has utterly failed to prove his charges against the rector; on the contrary, it was established that the rector was actuated by feelings of charity and benevolence in the case of the wandering stranger.

6. The poor stranger was never a prisoner, and was never at any time put under any restraint.

7. The

7. The keeper of the lock-up, it transpired in evidence, distinctly informed Mr. Gordon that the rector had sent the poor man to him to be cared for and assisted with a night's lodging, so that when Mr. Gordon made his charges to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor against the rector he had a full knowledge that the man was not a prisoner, and he well knew under what circumstances he was in the lock-up.

8. That the churchwarden and the keeper himself did all in reason that they could to relieve the man.

9. That the evidence taken at the sessions, together with the resolution arrived at by the justices, will be forwarded to you as soon as the papers can be copied so as to be annexed to this report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Barclay,*
Custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

— No. 2. —

(No. 52.)

No. 2.
Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
24 July 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House. 24 July 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 490, 5 September 1862, page 37.)

REFERRING to my Despatch, No. 41,* of the 8th instant, I have the honour to forward another communication from Mr. Gordon to the Governor's secretary, together with a copy of the reply which I have caused to be addressed to him.

* Page 3.

Mr. Gordon to Mr. Austin, 5 and 6 July 1862.
Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon, 14 July 1862.

2. It may perhaps be desirable for me to make a brief summary of the principal features of the whole case.

3. Mr. Gordon, in a communication dated 7th May 1862, made various allegations relative to "the administration of justice in connection with prison regulations, the condition of the poor, and collection of debts." Amongst other statements, he designated the "lock-up" at Morant Bay as being "a place one of the most disgusting and revolting to human nature that can be imagined," and he then charged the rector of the parish with "having actually sent in a poor sick man, on what authority I cannot find out, nor do I know how the rector could do so at all," adding, "and this wretched creature was up to last night, from the 26th April last, entirely living in the privy of this unventilated place; there he was put, there he remained, there he eat and drank and slept there; better had he slept the sleep of death than undergo this slow process of poisoning, which it really is, and I submit that the Attorney General has a good action in this case."

4. This communication of Mr. Gordon's was referred to the custos of the parish, "to report upon the allegations and statements made."

5. The custos, on 28th May, did report as regards the "lock-up," that it was formerly used as the almshouse of the parish, that "the description (given by Mr. Gordon) is anything but correct," that instead of being a "sink-hole," it is much "too large for the purposes to which it is now applied," and that the inmates were "few in number and often none."

As regards the charge against the rector, "the facts of this case are, that a poor wandering stranger, far gone in dropsy, and since dead, called at the rectory late in the evening, seeking food and lodging, and the rector, having no means of accommodating him, sent him to the lock-up, with directions to the keeper to receive him and have his wants provided for; and more, he sent and informed the churchwarden, who immediately sent 4 *s.* to provide necessaries, when the rector considered the case off his hands, having done all that he could. Such are the facts upon which Mr. Gordon trumps up a criminal charge against the rector, and suggests having him put in the hands of the Attorney-General."

6. About the same time a letter reached me from the rector of the parish himself, dated 23d May 1862, stating that his conduct had been "shamefully and untruthfully represented," giving a plain statement of the facts, and reporting that Mr. Gordon had personally seen him on the 6th May, and in reference to this very case. Mr. Gordon therefore knew all the true circumstances connected with

the case before he wrote his letter of the 7th, charging the rector with inhumanity, and suggesting he should be placed in the hands of the Attorney-General.

7. Having these reports before me, I caused Mr. Gordon to be informed that, having duly inquired into the circumstances connected with his statements, I found that the charge of cruelty against the Reverend Mr. Cooke, the rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, was altogether unfounded, and that his general allegations as to the state of the prison at Morant Bay were greatly exaggerated, both of which circumstances he had full opportunity of ascertaining for himself, adding, that I should be glad to learn that he could offer any explanation of his having made such serious and groundless charges.

8. To this communication Mr. Gordon replied (14th June) by reiterating his statements, and acquainting me that he would "with convenient speed be able to adduce further testimony sustaining the statements."

9. Instead of doing this, Mr. Gordon forthwith addressed another letter to your Grace (14th June), stating that he trusted fully to substantiate the statement he had made respecting the Morant Bay lock-up and the unfortunate man, Thomas Williams, but adding a variety of other allegations relative to the treatment of coolies, the sanitary state of the island, the want of interpreters, the taxation of the public to import labourers for private gentlemen's estates, &c. &c.

10. Finding that up to the 20th June I heard nothing further from Mr. Gordon, I then directed the custos of the parish to summon a special sessions of the justices, to inquire into and report fully upon the statements made by Mr. Gordon, giving that gentleman due notice of the day appointed for the meeting, in order that he might be personally present to prove his case, if able.

11. On the 3d July instant the special sessions was held, at which a numerous and highly respectable body of magistrates to the number of 14 was present.

12. The report of the proceedings, dated 4th July, accompanied my Despatch, No. 41.*

* Page 3.

13. From this report your Grace would learn, that after an inquiry lasting from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., during which Mr. Gordon was allowed every scope and latitude in his endeavours to establish his charges, and after the justices had themselves inspected the lock-up, it was judicially decided that "Mr. Gordon had utterly failed to prove his charges against the rector; on the contrary, it was established that the rector was actuated by feelings of charity, and benevolence in the case of 'the wandering stranger,' and that the keeper of the lock-up had distinctly informed Mr. Gordon that the rector had sent the poor man to him to be cared for, and assisted with a night's lodging"

14. It was my own conviction that a person who could knowingly make such a malevolent and wilful mis-statement against a worthy clergyman (whose 32 years' service might have claimed for him respect even from Mr. Gordon) ought not to remain any longer in the commission of the peace. In this conviction the members of the executive committee fully concurred, and indeed, after a formal judicial inquiry, under the provisions of 20 Vict. c. 11, s. 20, into Mr. Gordon's conduct, there was no other alternative open to me than at once to remove him from the bench, which was accordingly done. To have allowed him to remain would have been an insult to the other magistrates.

Enclosure 2, Evidence at Special Sessions, 3 July 1862.

15. I now append a copy of the evidence taken, and of a further letter received from Mr. Gordon (5th July).

16. Without attempting to follow Mr. Gordon in his various objections or statements, I would call your Grace's attention to the principal statement, that the case was decided without examining 11 witnesses whose names he tendered to the justices.

17. The report states that these witnesses were tendered to give evidence "as to the past condition of the lock-up, and other matters connected therewith," and the bench very properly decided that this was a matter they were not called upon to inquire into, since the investigation was for the purpose of enabling Mr. Gordon to prove that he had not made mis-statements against the rector, knowing them to be such, and that his allegations as to the existing state of the Morant Bay lock-up were not greatly exaggerated.

18. As

18. As regards the lock-up itself, I have the honour to enclose a statement by the custos of the parish, showing that the building is entirely parochial, and altogether in the hands and management of the local vestry and the justices, and that the Executive is in no way responsible for any insufficiency or deficiency which may have existed either in the management or in the supply of requisites. Enclosure 3. Statement by Mr. Barclay, 24 July 1862.

19. It further follows from this statement, that if Mr. Gordon's object really was to remedy an abuse which he believed to exist, it was his duty, as a justice of the parish, and one of the body in whom the control vested, to have himself urged upon his brother justices or upon the vestry the necessary reforms; but he did not do this, either on the recent occasion, or any time during the series of years through which it is implied the lock-up has been mismanaged. As regards the poor man, Williams, it is equally apparent (for the question was put in evidence), that whilst Mr. Gordon made a charge of cruelty against the rector, who had done all in his power to relieve him, Mr. Gordon himself never aided him, either by gift of food or money, or even by urging upon the parish authorities to do so.

20. Mr. Gordon also commented in strong terms upon the poor man being left on the privy, but when he saw him there he neither influenced him by his persuasion to quit it, nor did he exercise his authority as a magistrate to direct the keeper of the lock-up to remove him by force.

21. It only remains for me to notice that whilst the evidence taken before the justices discloses gross want of propriety and attention to his duty on the part of the gaoler (stated by Mr. Gordon in his letter of the 7th May to be the most able and exemplary supervisor of a prison that he knew), in not taking care that the lock-up was properly supplied with utensils for use at night, yet as the lock-up is reported to be usually occupied by but few inmates, and often to be without even one, I would hope that the state of things reported as existing occasionally has not occurred so frequently or to so great an extent as might perhaps, upon a perusal of the evidence, be at first supposed.

22. I have called for returns which will throw light upon this point, and have also taken such steps as were necessary to prevent a recurrence of any similar abuse, as well as to secure a better and more frequent visitation and inspection by the justices, not only in respect to this lock-up, but in reference to all the places of confinement in the Colony. I may add that this subjec thas anxiously engaged my attention ever since my first arrival in the Colony, and my efforts have been unceasing to secure the regular and systematic attention of the justices to this most important duty. Indeed, I have myself set the example, by visiting personally all the gaols and other institutions within reasonable reach.

23. I shall transmit to your Grace by the next mail the copy of another communication which I received from Mr. Gordon, in reference to the state of things at Kingston, as it shows the rash, inconsiderate, and wholesale nature of the charges Mr. Gordon is in the habit of preferring.

This letter would have accompanied my present despatch, but having been referred in original to the mayor of Kingston, has not been restored to me.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G. (signed) *E. Eyre.*
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Mr. *G. W. Gordon* to Mr. *Austin.*

Sir, Kingston, 5 July 1862.

I HAVE to state, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that a special session of the peace for St. Thomas-in-the-East was held at Morant Bay on the 3d instant, at which his Honour the custos presided, the Honourable Baron Ketelhodt and a large number of magistrates were also present. Encl. 1, in No. 2.

The proceedings were conducted in an extraordinary and unfair manner towards me.

1st. My introductory and explanatory remarks, which I desired to make in showing the necessity and occasion for having reported the various matters to his Excellency, were refused to be heard.

2d. Then, in order that it may not be said that I wished to evade the inquiry, I went into the

the dry matter of evidence, without remarks. As soon as two witnesses were examined, the custos and some of the other gentlemen seemed to get weary, making remarks of being tired, lived a long way off, it was getting late, &c. Then they determined not to hear any more witnesses, but to visit the lock-up, which, of course, having been, since my report, cleaned, repaired, and improved, is now quite a different place from what it was on the 6th May last and previously, and on their return they would only hear one other witness, who was very shortly examined, and then wished to close the proceedings, while I had 11 more witnesses yet to be examined, nine of whom were present, and ready to bear most important testimony in support of my charges, and who could speak experimentally of the state of the lock-up as it had been, and to some extent even now is (the urine from the female rooms above running down on the parties confined below, and there being only one entrance to the female ward through the keeper's room, and although a late keeper had been tried for rape, no alteration has yet been made).

The want of a gaol.

The destitute and neglected condition of the poor, and the great needs-be for an asylum or parochial hospital, &c. As, however, the custos and justices would not go on with the examination, but requested the names of witnesses not examined to be produced, I did so. Whereupon they drew up a report which, being inconsistent with the fact to be inquired into, and contrary to the evidence produced, limited as it was, I tendered a protest against, as follows: "I protest against the proceedings and decision of the justices in special session this day assembled, as not being based on evidence, either produced or prohibited, or to be produced."

Mr. Justice Hire also announced his dissent, and I learn some of the other justices present were also not satisfied. I humbly submit that I have not been duly heard, and therefore no proper decision can possibly be given.

3d. But as a copy of the evidence which was taken down will be, no doubt, submitted to his Excellency, I beg to say I hope it will, on reference thereto, be found that my statements are substantially borne out and strictly correct, and that there was no evidence to prove otherwise.

1st. The rector in his evidence admits that he sent the man to the wretched lock-up; he was placed in the privy thereof; his life eventually terminated in the cell where he had been removed when the prisoners had left. He was sick; and died without obtaining medical treatment, due care, or proper nourishment (and if all the witnesses had been examined it would have also been found that he lacked nourishment of any sort, inasmuch as he complained a few days before his death of hunger, as one of the witnesses could have proved); that all the allowance which seems to have been given to him was 6 *s.* for a period of four weeks or upwards. The evidence also shows that no inquest was held on him, and no attention was ever paid by the rector to his spiritual wants, and, without knowing whether he was a heathen or not, he was buried in the churchyard by the rector's son, who is parish clerk.

2d. The state of the lock-up, as shown by the testimony of the keeper himself, and also that of Mr. Alvarenga, was fully as bad as I represented it to have been.

3d. I was not allowed to show that there was no parochial asylum or hospital, except so far as on cross-examination the rector stated there was none.

4th. I was not allowed to give the testimony of Mr. Edward Burrell, the deputy marshal and collector of petty debts, although he was present, that there was no gaoler nor proper gaol for debtors, and that the ends of justice were thereby defeated, nor was I allowed to show that the miserable cesspool (four to five years neglected) of the district prison had been recently cleaned out by the prisoners themselves. Without desiring unduly to impugn the proceedings of the day, I do feel that there seemed a disposition to prejudge the case, and that instead of receiving cordial co-operation in correcting evils which appeared palpable (and the existence of which could not rightly be denied, and was at least to be regretted), the conduct was partial, and a desire evinced to suppress the examination and disparage me.

Finally, I submit that, notwithstanding the extraordinary and unjust decision which the majority of the justices came to, that I have substantially and honourably sustained the statements, so far as even the restricted opportunity afforded, and that I did all I could to promote the fullest investigation. I now leave the matter to the further deliberation of his Excellency, and trust that it may receive his impartial and considerate review.

I have, &c.

H. W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary.

(signed) *Geo. W. Gordon.*

P.S.—I shall be glad, if I am in order in inquiry, to be informed if it be his Excellency's pleasure to forward a copy of the evidence and the report in due order to his Grace the Secretary for the Colonies, and also if it will be necessary for me to procure the statements of the witnesses who were not examined on the 3d instant.

(signed) *G. W. G.*

Mr. *Gordon* to Mr. *Austin*.

Sir, Kingston, 9 July, 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge your despatch of yesterday's date,* intimating that his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, having received a report of the proceedings of late investigation in St. Thomas-in-the-East, finds that not only are the opinions of my conduct conveyed in your letter of the 13th ult. fully substantiated, but it appears further that I made statements against the rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, with the full knowledge that he had been actuated by kind and benevolent motives, &c.; and that it is a matter of regret that any person holding Her Majesty's Commissions (I presume you mean of the peace) should be guilty of such deliberate and wilful misrepresentations, and that it has become his Excellency's duty at once to remove me from the commissions of the peace which I hold for several parishes. This letter is of very little consequence to myself, for I believe I have held the commissions with advantage to the public service, and trust I have faithfully discharged my duties to the Crown; but the charge of wilful and deliberate misrepresentations, without even being furnished with particulars on which it is based, is as insulting as it is unconstitutional, unworthy, un-English, and undeserved; and I truly regret that Her Majesty's representative in this island could indulge in such unbecoming and unmerited personal insults, and become so great a partisan as to mix up private feelings with public duty. To say that I had every opportunity and facility afforded me of making good my assertions is a lamentable untruth, for I stated in my letter that only three witnesses were allowed to be examined, and that I had 11 remaining, whom the justices would not hear.

* Not received.

2. I contend that in every particular my statements with reference to the unfortunate man "Thomas Williams," and the treatment of him, were fully made out; and, notwithstanding the slander which is contained in the Lieutenant Governor's ungenerous denunciations, before all just minds I shall stand acquitted, and I trust my conduct will be generally approved by men of integrity and humanity, and none of his Excellency's proceedings shall move me; nor do I think his undeserved insults will in the least influence a discriminating public. If the rector of a parish may send sick men to such a miserable prison as the lock-up at Morant Bay, and then neglect and suffer them to die, without receiving proper care and nourishment or medical attendance, in the merciless way that "Thomas Williams" was treated, put in a privy to eat, drink, and sleep, and then to be removed to die in a cell, which to an extent is also a privy, to subsist for over four weeks on 6*s.*, and when he dies no inquest is held on him to ascertain the cause of death, I say that it is time that there should be some notice taken of such proceedings, nor shall I submit to be told, in offensive strains, that conduct like this proceeds from "kind and benevolent motives;" and the charge of wilful and deliberate misrepresentations I repel and hurl back with indignation to the guilty quarter from whence it emanated. "The wickedness of the wicked will surely come to an end. How long shall the wicked triumph?" I do not consider that my representing flagrant abuses, claiming immediate remedy, should have induced my removal from the commission of the peace.

3. The commission requires that equal justice should be done to the poor as well as the rich, but in Jamaica it appears that a premium is held out to inhumanity, cruelty, and corruption!

4. The Lieutenant Governor has, no doubt, humiliated himself by his conduct towards me. He demonstrates himself to be the mere vassal of others, and I consider him very pitiable in this matter, which I shall bring before the tribunal of an English public in order to show the enormities of this country, and the manner in which the Government is administered.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Gordon.*

P.S.—If even I had not the solid grounds which I submitted to the Lieutenant Governor, it is clear that his conduct towards me is premature and unwarranted, and I deliberately charge him with an excessive exercise of power in my case, tending to intimidate and suppress independence in any one holding Her Majesty's commission, and to stultify useful reforms so loudly called for in this country.

G. W. G.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Gordon*.

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 14 July 1862.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acknowledge your letter of the 9th instant, and to state that it only furnishes his Excellency with further evidence, if such were needed, of your unfitness for holding Her Majesty's commission of the peace.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

Jamaica, Ss. Parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

At a Court of Special Sessions of the Peace held at the Court House, Morant Bay, in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, on Thursday the 3d day of July 1862, by order of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, under the 20th Vict. c. 11, s. 20, for the purpose of having Mr. George W. Gordon's letter of the 7th May last, to his Excellency's secretary, submitted to them, in order that Mr. Gordon may be afforded an opportunity of substantiating his allegations, if he is able to do so.

Present:

2. The Honourable Alexander Barclay, Custos, in the Chair.
The Honourable Baron Von Kettelhodt,
Duncan C. M'Kenzie,
John F. G. Damers,
Augustus Hire,
John Henthelwood,
George B. Snaith,
Jonathan C. Sibley,
William M'Kay,
John Walton,
William Paterson,
B. B. Sherwood,
William P. Coles, and
William Smith,
} Esquires, Justices of the Peace in and for the Parish of Saint Thomas-in-the-East.

3. Mr. Mowat, the clerk of the peace, read the custos' warrant addressed to the inspector of police to summon the magistrates to meet, and his return thereto; he also read the notice from the Gazette by authority convening the meeting. The clerk of the peace then read the following letters; viz.

Mr. *Gordon* to Mr. *Austin*, dated Bath, St. Thomas-in-the-East, 7 May 1862, which will be found printed at page 3.

Rev. Mr. *Cooke* to Mr. *Austin*, dated Parsonage, Morant Bay, 23 May 1862, which will be found printed at page 6.

Mr. *Barclay* to Mr. *Austin*, dated Kingston, 28 May 1862, which will be found printed at page 5.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Barclay*, dated Governor's Secretary's Office, 20 June 1862, which will be found printed at page 8.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Barclay*.

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 23 June 1862.

Requesting reference to my letter of the 21st instant, I have now the honour, by desire of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to enclose two letters, to be laid before the special sessions of the justices for St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*,
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Mowat* to Mr. *Gordon*.

Sir, Peace Office, St. Thomas-in-the-East, 23 June 1862.

I am desired by the custos to inform you, that a special sessions of the peace will be held at Morant Bay, in St. Thomas-in-the East, on Thursday the 3d day of July next, at 11 o'clock, a.m., in accordance with the 20th Vict. c. 11, s. 20, to afford you an opportunity of substantiating by evidence the allegations you have made in a letter of date the 7th day of May last, addressed by you to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, against certain persons, and against the institutions of the parish.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Charles Mowat*,
Clerk of the Peace, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Mr. *Gordon* to Mr. *Mowat*.

Sir, Kingston, 24 June 1862.

I AM in receipt of your letter of the 23d instant, intimating that his Honour the custos has summoned a special session of the peace for St. Thomas-in-the-East, at Morant Bay, on the 3d proximo, to afford me an opportunity of substantiating allegations made in my letter of 7th May last to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

2. I request that all things necessary to be done on your part as clerk of the peace will be observed, and I should like to confer with you on the best course to be pursued, in order to arrive at truth.

I have, &c.
(signed) *George W. Gordon*, J. P.

On the 13th June the Secretary of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor informed me that he had inquired into the charges.

G. W. G.

The Clerk of the Peace now called on Mr. Gordon to produce his letter of the 23d June. Letter admitted. The custos stated to the justices assembled in sessions the object for which they were met, and called on Mr. Gordon to bring forward his witnesses in support of his charges. Mr. Gordon called the following witnesses:

Examined by Mr. *Gordon*.

Stephen Hope Cooke, sworn.—I am a clergymen of the Church of England, and rector of this parish. I remember the 6th May last. I remember your being at the rectory on that day. I admitted to you that I sent a man called "Thomas Williams" to the lock-up. You did remonstrate with me on the impropriety of sending a man to the lock-up to be confined in the privy. I told you I did not send him there for any such purpose. He was a poor man, who called upon me for relief, and that I had given him 1 *s.* to provide him with food for that night and the following morning, having no place to give him to sleep in. My sending the man to the lock-up was on the suggestion of one of my servants. I sent one of my servants with the man to the lock-up, with a verbal message to the keeper to give the poor man a place to lie down in. I don't recollect your suggesting what ought to have been done. I daresay you told me he ought to have been sent to the Kingston Hospital, and I intended to have sent him there myself. After hearing what you had to say about the lock-up, I told you I would make a point of seeing Dr. Morrogh, and taking him with me to see the sanitary state of the building, and to ascertain what was the nature of the disease of the unfortunate man. I told you the man represented to me that he came from St. George's. You represented the lock-up as not being fit to put a dog in, much less a human being. I don't remember the day I sent him into the lock-up; it might have been about eight or nine days before you spoke to me. I did not visit the man during the eight or nine days he was in the lock-up, because I did not know he was there. I made no inquiry for him. He was in the hands of the churchwardens. I obtained assistance for him from the churchwardens to the amount of 3 *s.* by my request, the week after he was in. I visited the unfortunate man after you spoke to me. He was in the lock-up, in the privy. I spoke to him; his condition was bad enough. The condition of the privy was as privies usually are, not very enticing in the perfume; the privy was clean. I asked him what business he had in the privy; he said he could not get up; he could not walk about. I remonstrated with the man, Williams, about being there. I then asked the keeper how he could permit the man to remain there. He told me he could not get him to come out; that yourself had spoken to him to come out, and he would not. I can't say how long he was there. I did not know, in point of fact, until Mr. Gordon mentioned it to me. Dr. Morrogh, at my request, examined him; he was then in the privy. I then went, after receiving the medical opinion of Dr. Morrogh, to the wharf, with the view of getting a boat to send him down in to the public hospital, previously to which I had directed the keeper to look out for a vessel going down, and to let me know, and I would pay his passage, and give him a letter to the authorities of the public hospital. He was not sent down, for there was no vessel to take him. He died, I believe, two days after. He died in the lock-up. Can't say in what part. The clerk of the church buried him, "Mr. Arthur Devaney Cooke." I don't know if there was an inquest; its no business of mine. He did not receive any ministerial attention from me, for I did not even know he was there. I did not know the denomination of the man. It was reported to me that the man was cared for. I provided him with means as well as the churchwarden. Every care was taken of the man. I can't say whether the man received any medical treatment while in the lock-up. He was buried in the churchyard. I have nothing to do with the lock-up. I don't visit it. No prisoners are visited by any clergyman, that I know of. I have before sent parties, houseless people, there for the night. I have sent parties there once or twice before. I sent no written order. I cannot possibly tell his age; he might have been between 45 and 50. Know nothing about his country. He was a black man, I think. Dr. Murrogh said the man was suffering from dropsy and organic disease of the kidneys. I considered the privy an improper place for the man to be in. I was told the man put himself in the privy. I was told, in the presence of the man, that he said he had to go so often there that he preferred remaining there. I know the privy; its a very good one; its made of brick; the seats are made of wood, and the flooring of wood. I can't say if there are any windows in the privy; I did not observe any.

There is a large door; in fact I don't know if there is a door. The whole privy is open Pure air is essential to life; to any one the influence of that privy would be deleterious any privy would be. I don't know how long a man could live in that privy. It forms no part of my duty to inquire what nourishment was given to him. My object of sending the man to the lock-up was to prevent his dying in the streets. I had no other object than providing him with a temporary lodging for the night. I had no intention of sending him there for any other purpose than to be taken care of. I did not send him there for confine ment. There is no almshouse in this parish. If he was put into confinement it was without my knowledge. The only inference I could draw from Mr. Gordon's letter to the Lieutenant Governor was that I was the person that ought to be proceeded against by the Attorney General. I saw nothing to indicate uncleanliness in the lock-up, and if there had been I should not have been answerable. I did not put the man in the privy. I smelt no bad stench from the privy. I know the room Mr. Gordon called a horrid room; I certainly say it was not a horrid room; I found no improper smell. All I contemplated in the case of Thomas Williams was charity, and being desirous of rendering him assistance. I never sent him to the lock-up to be subjected to any restraint. Mr. Gordon was aware of my motives in sending the man to the lock-up. I did not communicate with the churchwarden, Mr. M'Kenzie, until eight days after.

Examined by *G. W. Gordon.*

Nathaniel Munro, sworn.—I reside at Morant Bay, and I am lock-up keeper at present; I have been so for the last 15 months. Mr. D. C. M'Kenzie, churchwarden, appointed me. My duty is to receive prisoners and keep them there. Prisoners are brought in by the police and sent in by the magistrates. I don't otherwise receive them. The rector is not a magistrate, that I know of. Rector has sent in no prisoners to me. I received no prisoners from the rector. I know a man named "Thomas Williams." He was a sick man. He was sent to the lock-up by the rector; there was no committing order sent with him, verbally or written. I keep a reception book for prisoners. I did not enter "Thomas Williams's" name in that book. I receive persons that are sent to the lock-up for shelter. I have no book of record of those persons. I keep no statement of sick persons when they are received or dismissed. Since I have been there no justices have visited the lock-up, except the day yourself and Mr. Walton were there. The churchwarden, Mr. M'Kenzie, is the only party who visits the lock-up. There was a man named Thomas Williams who came there for shelter as a sick man. You inquired who sent him there; I told you the rector. At that time he must have been there 12 or 15 days. When you came it was the 6th May. The man was lying down on the seat of the privy; he had been there about five days. You inquired why he was there. I told you I had prisoners, and nowhere else to put him, and he said he would go in there. He eat there, he drank there, he remained there altogether, but not until his death. The privy is a large one, built of brick, floored with pitch pine; a brick roof; no windows in it. There is no ventilation except through the seat of the privy and by two chimneys. It has not been cleaned since I have been there; it appears to have been cleaned out when it was last repaired, I think about the commencement of last year. Other parties went there while he was there. Thomas Williams was not confined he might have gone all over the bay if he liked, if he could have walked. I can't say if the man was exposed or not in the privy. I did not follow him there. The man himself told me he had received a shilling from the rector. Williams walked to the lock-up himself. Previous to his coming I received a message from the rector that he was going to send a man to me. The man was then able to walk; he walked about for a few days, all outside. He went out and bought things, and brought in and cooked, for about three days; it was ground provisions. A few days after he complained that he had not anything, and I gave him a portion of my own food. I went to Mr. M'Kenzie's son on a Saturday. I asked him if the rector had given him any order to give something for the man. He said no; but I saw he wanted for nothing. I then went to the rector, and he gave me a note to Mr. M'Kenzie's son. The man had been in the lock-up then about nine days. I generally gave him a portion of my food. When he was in the privy the boy I had gave him the food; he always eat his food. I gave him food twice a day. I gave him water. Mr. M'Kenzie, the churchwarden, gave him a suit of clothes. This was after the nine days. On Saturday I bought beef for him, and during the week also, fresh. Sometimes the man complained of the ground provisions being too hard for him, and I gave him pap-corn meal. Mr. M'Kenzie gave me 3 *s.* for him. I spent it on him. Up to the time you visited the lock-up he had been there some 10 or 15 days. During that time the rector and the doctor came there. This was about three days after you visited the lock-up. The man was very sick. The doctor found him in the privy. There is no lock on the door of the privy; the door was not closed, except when he closed it himself at night. The privy smelt strong; there was a bad stench. His health fell off while he remained in the privy. The rector said he would send him to the hospital by the first boat he could get. The doctor did not say anything to me or the man. After I got the lock-up clear of prisoners I removed Williams into the lock-up, where he died. He was buried in a coffin supplied by the churchwarden. No inquest was held on him. I informed the churchwarden of his death. He was not visited by the churchwarden during the time he was in the lock-up. He died on a Saturday, in the month of May last. This was about two weeks after you visited the lock-up. There was an attempt made to send him to Kingston to the hospital, the very day he died. I received two letters from the rector, one to Mr. Paterson, to get a passage

passage for him, as there was a boat leaving; the other letter was to go along with him. He had no medical treatment during the whole time he was in the lock-up. Can't say who buried him. He was about 39 or 40. He was a yellow skinned man. I believe he was a creole. He was never visited by any clergyman in the lock-up. You found fault with me for the condition of the lock-up. I told you I had no broom to sweep out the place. It is swept out although I have no broom given to me. The lock-up was offensive that day, because there had been people in there during the week. All male prisoners are locked up in one room. There are no vessels provided for the people at night; they relieve nature on the ground. They can go to the privy if they call me. They remain all night with the deposits on the ground, sometimes 10 together in that way locked up. I have never been called until about two weeks ago by one person. In the morning I order the prisoners to clean out the room, and they do so. The place is always damp and disagreeable. I should say unhealthy. The offensive state of the lock-up is occasioned from that cell and the privy. The lock-up was never whitewashed during the time I was there, and up to the time you came there, nor had any lime been thrown into the privy up to that time. I never applied for any lime. Sometimes female prisoners are in the look-up; they have an apartment up-stairs; they go through my room to their apartment. I have been without prisoners for a week. I have had as many as 10 at one time, but only for a night. There are no prisoners in the lock-up now. I don't get a written order from the magistrates. I told Mr. Gordon that the rector sent Thomas Williams to the lock-up for shelter. I don't remember your speaking to Williams; I don't remember your speaking to Williams at all. I was there the whole time. Williams came in very sick, all swollen. Williams remained for two weeks after Mr. Gordon saw him. Mr. Gordon did not afford the man any relief. I received 2 *s.*, besides the 3 *s.* from the churchwarden. I considered it the churchwarden's business to look after the man. The rector sent the man to be cared for to the lock-up. Williams received 6 *s.* in all for his support. I applied to the churchwarden for tubs, and he gave me me some pans; he gave me money to buy barrels to make tubs, but I used the barrels to hold water. The upstairs, where the females are put, were empty. The first week Williams came there he was in such a bad state I could not put him up stairs. Prisoners cook for themselves.

William Alvarenga, sworn.—I am an inhabitant of this town for the last eight years. I know the lock-up. I was there on the 6th May last. I paid particular attention to it then, and I knew it previously. A great deal has been done to it since; it has been twice whitewashed. When I first went there it was very offensive; I could not go into the room, it was so offensive; it was not a place fit for a sick man, or even for prisoners. I observed a man there named "Thomas Williams" in the privy. I did not go to him. I saw him eating in the privy. I should not like to have gone into the place, as it was very offensive. I asked the keeper of the lock-up why the place was so offensive. He said because the churchwarden would not allow him tubs for the use of the prisoners to ease themselves in, and they were obliged to ease themselves on the floor.

Mr. Gordon tendered the following witnesses to prove the past condition of the lock-up, and other matters connected therewith, viz.:—

J. R. Richards.	Thomas Williams.
Geo. M'Intosh.	Thomas Francis.
Sergeant Munro.	Edward Burrell.
Corporal John Roberts.	Wm. Mitchell.
Policeman Irving.	Charles Sullivan.
William M'Cornock.	

(signed) *A. Barclay*, Custos.

Resolved, That the justices, having this day met in special sessions, according to advertisement, have taken evidence in the several matters, and have themselves examined the "lock-up," and find it a very good one for the purpose, and have arrived at the conclusion, from the evidence, that the charges made by Mr. Gordon against the rector are totally unfounded; they also find that there is a gaol for debtors, if put into the keeper's hands, with documents from the proper authorities. They herewith transmit the evidence taken, signed with the initials of the following justices:—

A. B., for Alexander Barclay, Custos.
M. A. B. V. K., for M. A. Baron Von Ketelhodt.
W. P., for William Paterson.
J. H., for John Hinshelwood.
J. F. G. D., for John F. G. Damers.
J. W., for John Walton.
W. P. C., for William P. Coles.
W. S., for William Smith.
G. B. S., for Geo. B. Smith.
B. B. S., for Benjamin B. Sherwood.
D. C. M'K., for Duncan C. Mackenzie.

(True copy of the Minutes of the Special Sessions, 3d July 1862.)

(signed) *Edward Charles Mowat*,
Clerk of the Peace, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Then follows copy of a letter from Mr. Gordon to Mr. Austin, dated Kingston, 5 July 1862, which will be found printed at page 11.

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

Encl. 3, in No. 2.

STATEMENT by Mr. *Barclay*.

1. What is the name of the lockup?—The Morant Bay Lock-up.

2. Name of lock-up keeper?—Nathaniel Munro.

3. By whom appointed?—By the justices and vestry.

4. Under whom is the lock-up managed?—Under the justices.

5. By whom are requisites for the lock-up supplied, and from what fund paid?—By the churchwardens, and from the parochial fund.

6. What control is there over the parties who manage the lock-up, and how and by whom can it be exercised?—The justices.

7. Have the police anything to do with the lock-up?—Only in so far as lodging prisoners there temporarily for safe custody until bailed or committed to the prison for trial.

(signed) *A. Barclay*, Custos,
24 July 1862. St. Thomas-in-the-East.

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
Lieut. Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K. G.
7 August 1862.

(No. 56.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 7 August 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 490, 5 September 1862, page 37.)

22 July 1862.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a further letter from Mr. George William Gordon, addressed to your Grace.

2. Mr. Gordon complains that I did not furnish him with a copy of the report from the special session of justices, or of the evidence taken before them. It was not my duty to supply them. Mr. Gordon could, if he had chosen, have himself obtained copies from the clerk to the magistrates in the usual manner.

3. Mr. Gordon complains that the tribunal before which the investigation was made was not a proper one. It is the one provided by law (20 Vict. c. 11, s. 20).

4. I do not feel that any other point in Mr. Gordon's communication requires further comment from myself, but I may state that since I last addressed your Grace I have learnt, that so recently as February of this year Governor Darling had directed Mr. Gordon to be superseded as a magistrate for improper conduct, but for some cause or other the writs of supersedeas were not issued. Of this previous misconduct I was not aware when I wrote my former Despatches, announcing that I had myself found it necessary to supersede Mr. Gordon. I append a copy of Governor Darling's letter, and of the extracts from the Morant Bay prison (this is not the lock-up) books, upon which it was founded.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon. 14 Feb. 1862.

Extract from Morant Bay Prison Books.

5. It is only necessary for me to add, that I believe Mr. Gordon to be a most mischievous person, and one likely to do a great deal of harm amongst uneducated and excitable persons, such as are the lower classes of this country. His object appears not to be to rectify evils where they exist, but rather to impress the peasantry with the idea that they labour under many grievances, and that their welfare and interests are not cared for by those in authority. Had his object been simply to remedy certain evils or irregularities which he found existing at a country lock-up, he might easily have done so, without reference to the Executive, as one of the justices of the district under whose sole management and control, in conjunction with the churchwardens, the lock-up at Morant Bay was vested.

6. So also with regard to the unfortunate sick man who was sent there for shelter. Mr. Gordon finds fault with every body else, but did not himself, when personally present, and noticing the condition which he alleges to have been so destitute, afford any relief, or take steps to secure its being afforded by the parochial authorities.

I have, &c.
His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., (signed) *E. Eyre*.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

To His Grace the Right Hon. the Duke of *Newcastle*, Secretary for the Colonies, &c. Encl. 1, in No. 3.

May it please your Grace, Jamaica, 22 July 1862.

It appears that my last letter, under date 14th ultimo, was not duly forwarded to your Grace by the Lieutenant Governor. Since then a special session of the peace has been called, and which was of an extraordinary character, the particulars of which it will be my duty to solicit the attention of your Grace in due form in my next. I am unable to do so to-day, as the Lieutenant Governor did not furnish me with a copy of the report or evidence on which it was (or ought to have been) based, but proceeded in the most summary and arbitrary way to remove me from all my commissions of the peace, and that, too, without allowing me any opportunity of explanation, as it would appear, before he obtained a copy of the proceedings, and which proves that he prejudged the case; and also your Grace will find that the tone of the Despatch to me of the 8th instant was undignified, and of an offensive character, and, I humbly submit, not such as a case so serious ought to have been officially dealt with.

It will be my duty to bring to your Grace's notice the facts of the case.

1st. That the evils complained of did exist.

2d. That the evidence, so far as any was taken, and to which, if forwarded by the Lieutenant Governor (and it should be so) I beg to refer your Grace, bears out my assertion.

3d. That the case was not duly heard, and therefore no decision could be come to, and there was no evidence on which to censure me.

4th. That the unfortunate man Thomas Williams was buried without any inquest being held.

5th. That a special session of the peace, in which the conduct of the justices composing it might to some extent be implicated, was not a proper tribunal to which the matter should have been referred for investigation.

6th. The custos of the parish, to whom my statements had been referred previously by the Lieutenant Governor, and who it then appeared had already given a biassed report, acted as chief judge on the occasion, and which I humbly submit was not proper.

7th. The Baron Ketelhodt, a member of the Executive Committee, who I learn had also previously taken part in the matter at the King's House, not only associated himself with Mr. Custos Barclay, but also very indelicately and improperly took part in the proceedings and prejudiced the minds of others, and that the report drawn up was incorrect, not being based on the facts of the evidence, and was not unanimously adopted in court, nor then fully drawn up.

I therefore humbly submit that the proceeding of the Lieutenant Governor in removing me from the commissions of the peace is precipitate, unwarranted, and oppressive, and I pray that your Grace may be pleased to give the matters that attention which the case demands, and enable me to have a fair hearing, which as an English subject, I trust am entitled to; and it is due to my Sovereign, and the dignity of Her Crown, that gross and serious abuses should be fully inquired into, and I shall then have full confidence that your Grace will find no grounds for the deprivation of my commissions. I have for upwards of 18 years faithfully and honestly performed the functions of a magistrate, and I trust it will be the pleasure of your Grace, after due inquiry, to grant such redress as the case may be found to warrant.

The state of the prisons at Morant Bay was such as to require attention, and I shall be able to explain and afford good reasons for any statements which may be attempted to be made against me. I have only endeavoured faithfully to maintain my duties as justice of the peace, and to protect the claims of suffering humanity, with the highest respect.

I have, &c.
(signed) *George W. Gordon.*

P. S.—I have learnt since through Mr. Austin, Governor's Secretary, that my letter of the 14th ultimo was forwarded.

G. W. G.

Enclosure 2, in No. 3.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Gordon*. Encl. 2, in No. 3.

Governor's Secretary's Office,
Sir, 14 February 1862.

I am desired by the Governor to acquaint you that he has had before him copies of the several orders entered by you in the justices visiting book of the Morant Bay District Prison on the 5th February instant.

2. I am to observe to you that in giving those orders you have usurped the prerogative of the Crown, the powers of the Governor in Privy Council, and those of the visiting

justices of the prison, and you have induced the superintendent of the prison to commit a dereliction of duty for which his just punishment would be immediate removal from office.

3. Your conduct appears to his Excellency to exhibit such an unwarrantable assumption of authority, and such extreme ignorance of your proper functions as a magistrate, as to render it inexpedient that you should be any longer intrusted with those functions, and his Excellency therefore feels it his duty to supersede you in the commissions of the peace for the several parishes in which your name is at present included.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*,
Governor's Secretary.

G. W. Gordon, Esq., Kingston.

Morant Bay Prison.

Extracts from Justices' Visiting Book.

Morant Bay District Prison, 5 February 1862.

I ORDER that Charles Stanley Wilson * be immediately sent per first opportunity to public hospital, Kingston. A letter left for house surgeon.

(signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

* "Sailor."

Ex Patrica Cop Laby, of London.

Ordered, that the cesspools, which have not been emptied for four or five years, and are now very offensive, be at once attended to, and that the superintendent do immediately get this done, and that he render his account to the proper authorities.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

A book of record of each prisoner's commitment, offence, country, age, colour, sex, and religion, be kept for the future.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

The condition of the prison is creditable to the superintendent, Mr. R. M'Pherson.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

There having been hitherto nothing but salt fish allowed for the use of the prisoners, even in case of sickness, unless by order of the surgeon,

Ordered, that in future a supply of fresh beef be procured once a week at least.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

I desire that a copy of the foregoing orders be sent to the proper quarter with next report of the prison.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

The religious services of the prison requires to be considered.

5th February 1862. (signed) *G. W. Gordon*, J. P.

— No. 4. —

No. 4.

Lieut. Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G. 8 August 1862.

(No. 58.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.C.

Flamstead, Jamaica, 8 August 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 496, 23 September 1862, page 40.)

Baron Von Kettlehodt to Mr. Austin, 7 August 1862.

SINCE closing my Despatches and returning to the country, I have received a communication from the Baron Von Kettelhodt, which I have the honour to enclose, in reference to Mr. Gordon's case.

Minute by Baron Von Kettlehodt, dated 31 May 1862.

2. The previous correspondence will have placed before your Grace substantially the information contained in the Baron's letter, excepting the fact that the large number of 11 magistrates out of 13 entirely concurrred in the view taken of Mr. Gordon's conduct.

3. The Baron's Minute of the 31st May will entirely exculpate that gentleman from the reflections cast upon him by Mr. Gordon, as well as show that there was

was every desire on the part of the Executive to afford Mr. Gordon all fair opportunity of explaining his conduct, or of expressing his regret for it if unable to explain it.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K. G., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

The Baron *Ketelhodt* to Mr. *Austin.*

Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Sir, Spanish Town, 7 August 1862.

I BEG to acknowledge your communication, No. 974, of the 28th July, enclosing for my perusal and report, if I have any remarks to make on it, a letter from Mr. G. W. Gordon addressed to his Grace the Secretary of State, as I am prominently referred to in Mr. Gordon's letter.

In returning this letter herewith, I beg to observe that the part which I am alleged by Mr. Gordon to have taken previously in this matter consisted in this, that having been consulted by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor as to the course it might be proper to pursue in reference to Mr. Gordon, I recommended to his Excellency by a minute in writing, to which I beg respectfully to refer, to afford to Mr. Gordon an opportunity of explaining conduct which, from an inquiry instituted by his Excellency's direction by the custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and from his report thereon, appeared in his Excellency's estimation to lay Mr. Gordon open to the serious charge of having been actuated by malevolence, and being guilty of such wilful misrepresentation as would make him unworthy any longer to hold Her Majesty's commission of the peace.

His Excellency was pleased to act on this recommendation, and as Mr. Gordon, in reply to the communication addressed to him by you, inviting such explanations as it might be in his power to give, adhered to the charges made by him, and averred that he was prepared to prove their truth, the Honourable Mr. Smith and myself having thereupon been consulted by his Excellency, I jointly with him advised that Mr. Gordon should be allowed the opportunity to establish the truth of his charges before the tribunal pointed out by the 20th section of the 20th Victoria, chapter 11, before which, and in accordance with the method there prescribed, it would have been the duty of Mr Gordon as a justice of the peace in the first instance to lay and substantiate them.

Mr. Gordon in his letter to his Grace further objects that at the sessions of the peace held in consequence of the directions issued by his Excellency to the custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East, I "not only associated myself with Mr. Custos Barclay, but also very indelicately and improperly took part in the proceedings, and prejudiced the minds of others." In reference to this passage, I have to remark that in associating myself with the custos and the magistrates, and taking part in the proceedings in my capacity of magistrate for Saint Thomas-in-the-East, it could not occur to me that I would lay myself open to the charge of acting indelicately and improperly, as both my predecessors, as members of the Executive Committee in the Legislative Council, namely, Sir Bryan Edwards and the Honourable George Price, as well as all the other past and present members of the Executive Committee, have invariably continued to act as custodes and magistrates in their respective parishes. Nor did Mr. Gordon discover any indelicacy in my association with Mr. Custos Barclay, and the magistrates, until when the issue of the proceedings became known to him, as, so far from raising any objection, he not only in his opening address, but subsequently also, in the course of the proceedings, took occasion to express the great gratification he felt at seeing me on the bench.

I do not feel called upon to offer any remarks on the other allegations of Mr. Gordon, in reference to the proceedings themselves, beyond the following:—

1st. That the utmost, I may say a very unusual, latitude was allowed to Mr. Gordon.

2d. That the decision of the magistrates, in which, so far as I can recollect, 11 out of 13 magistrates present have expressed their concurrence, was arrived at after a fair and full investigation on the points which they considered to have been submitted to them for inquiry, an investigation which lasted six hours and upwards.

3d. That no evidence that could at all bear on the points referred to was declined to be received by the court of special sessions.

I have, &c.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq., Governor's Secretary.

(signed) *Max. Aug. Baron Von Ketelhodt.*

Enclosure 2, in No 4.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

MINUTE.

I ENTIRELY concur in the sentiment of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that a magistrate, guilty of wilful misrepresentation, ought to be removed from the commission. I am also of opinion that the accusation against the rector, when he had the means at hand of satisfying himself about its correctness, has every appearance of being the result of malevolence, and may, unless explained, justly be considered as such a wilful and gross misrepresentation as would make him a disgrace to the commission. Mr. Gordon's mode of procedure, in this regard, as well as in regard to the numerous other charges he makes, was moreover entirely irregular.

As a justice of the peace for the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, it was his duty, if he discovered any abuse in the prison, agreeably to the 20th section of the 20 Vict. c. 11, to report such abuses, in writing, to the custos, whose duty thereupon it would have been to summon a special session of the peace, in order to investigate the charges. Instead of adopting this course prescribed by law, which would have afforded the opportunity of proving his accusations, or of having them openly disproved, Mr. Gordon lays a sort of general indictment against things in St. Thomas-in-the-East in general, and against the rector in particular, before the Governor, who, after instituting such inquiry as he might think proper, on being satisfied that Mr. Gordon's charges were marked with exaggeration and even amounted to wilful misrepresentation, would be quite justified to remove him at once from the commission. At the same time I am of opinion that, before the issue of a writ of supersedeas (which would, of course, not be confined to the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, but extend to the four or five other parishes for which Mr. Gordon holds commissions of the peace, and which would most seriously affect him in his position in the country), an opportunity should be offered to him of explaining his conduct. I should therefore recommend that his Excellency ask Mr. Gordon whether he has any explanation to offer, tending to clear himself from the imputation now weighing upon him, of having been guilty of misrepresentation in a matter where he had the means at hand of obtaining the fullest information, and to advise him that if his explanation shall not prove satisfactory, his Excellency cannot consider him a fit person to remain in the commission, from which, in that case, he will be forthwith removed.

I have, &c.

31 May 1862. (signed) *M. A. Baron Von Ketelhodt.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 59.)

No. 5.
Lieut. Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
9 August 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G.

King's House, 9 August 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 498, 25 September 1862, page 40.)

7 May 1862.
* Page 3.

I HAVE reason to believe that through some inadvertance in my office a letter from Mr. George William Gordon, dated 7th May 1862, which ought to have accompanied my Despatch, No 41,* of the 8th July 1862, was not attached to it.

2. Should this be so I can only express my regret at the omission which has occurred, and endeavour to rectify it by now transmitting another copy.

3. It is scarcely necessary for me to express my conviction of the utter untruthfulness of Mr. Gordon's virulent and wholesale denunciation of the clergy of Jamaica, whom he declares to be, "with some here and there exceptions, the most immoral men in this country."

4. Indeed the chief object of Mr. Gordon in addressing your Grace appears to have been to vituperate the clergy of the Church of England, and by way of illustrating his subject, enclosing a copy of a letter which he had addressed to myself in reference to "the conduct of one of the rectors towards a poor unfortunate fellow-creature," and upon which charge, when proved to be not only unfounded but to have been made with full knowledge that it was unfounded, I considered it my duty to remove Mr. Gordon from the Commission of the Peace, as already notified to your Grace.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., &c. &c. &c. (signed) *E. Eyre*, Lieutenant Governor.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

To His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

May it please your Grace, Jamaica, 7 May 1862.

I HOPE the intrusion on your valuable time may be excused, the subject which causes it being one of importance as affecting the condition of a considerable part of Her Majesty's subjects in the West Indies, over whom Providence has at present placed you as the protector, and in whose interest your Lordship no doubt feels peculiar interest as a people from the cruelties and enormities of their late state of slavery. When the projectors of the great and glorious enterprise of negro emancipation had so acted on the Christianity and minds of the British people as to cause a sacrifice of 20 millions of treasure to be paid as the price of that freedom to which every one by nature is entitled, a great work was done. British honour was redeemed before God and man, and to a great extent the wrongs of humanity were redressed. Most of those whose labours, conflicts, and prayers achieved this benevolent act have ceased from their labours, and "their works do follow them."

2. But it now seems as if the cause of truth and righteousness have to some considerable extent become standard, at least in the public mind of great England.

3. In the campaigns of oriental and continental conquests the claims of the West Indies seem to have been overlooked. This is not less depicted in the low state of the majority of the inhabitants of Barbadoes, including those of European cast, than in the actual miseries of Jamaica; but it is my duty only at present to deal with the latter.

4. Since the period of emancipation had there been even one or two public colleges in the island, and a moderate attention paid to the instruction of the young in grammar and elementary schools, there would have been results correspondingly beneficial to the great boon of liberty. Our island has been and is yet governed by parties inimical to the progress of society, and whose only desire seem to be to produce by brute force sugar and rum at any cost, and which could be better done by that intelligence which they now try to beat down, and to hinder the gradual but solid improvement of the population, and hence it is that Jamaica is now so low as it is. Hence it is that so much misery and dissatisfaction exist in a land so fruitful and beautiful. Hence it is that the population has not naturally increased in corresponding proportion. Hence it is no vigorous signs of civilization exist in our midst, and that the value of property may be said to be only nominal.

5. Hence it is that a clergy bill exists, at an annual expense of little under 30,000 *l.* per annum, to support men in offices as clergymen, but who, in reality, are pen-keepers, planters, miners, and otherwise are to a considerable extent (with some here and there exceptions) the most immoral men in this country, and whose example is exceedingly injurious and lowering to the inhabitants generally; while, from the loose principles of the characters said to be under their charge, the influence is exceedingly destructive to the well-being of the island, and limits the heartfelt spirit of grace.

6. Were it not for the great efforts of the Wesleyans, Baptists, Presbyterians, London Missionaries, and other independent religious denominations, still more dark and dismal would be the condition of the island. And by way of illustrating what our Government is, and also the conduct of one of the rectors towards a poor unfortunate fellow-creature, I have respectfully to submit to your Grace the accompanying copy of my letter to his Excellency our newly appointed Lieutenant Governor.

7. I pray that it may please your Grace to take such notice of it as may in your wisdom be considered necessary.

8. Your Grace will not wonder if the people of this island show an anxious spirit; I beg to assure your Grace that they are a dutiful and loyal people, who suffer long, and may God grant your Grace a right judgment in this matter, and sustain your heart in benevolence and love.

I have, &c.
(signed) *George W. Gordon.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 63.)

No. 6.
Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
21 August 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 21 August 1862.
(Answered, No. 497, 23 September 1862, page 40.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit another letter from Mr. G.W. Gordon, addressed to your Grace, dated 6th August 1862. 6 August 1862.

2. This communication came under cover in a letter addressed to the Governor's secretary, and was only received on the 8th August, after the mails for England were closed.

24 July 1862. 3. I take this opportunity of appending copy of a circular which I caused to be addressed to the custodes of all the parishes, on the subject of visiting and inspecting the lock-ups or other places of confinement in their various parishes;

9 August 1862. also copy of a letter from the Custos of St. Thomas-in-the East, notifying that the deficiencies existing at the lock-up at Morant Bay had been supplied, and stating that such deficiencies had never been brought to his notice prior to the investigation held on the 3d July.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

Encl. 1, in No. 6. To his Grace the Right Hon. the Duke of *Newcastle*, Secretary for the Colonies, &c.

May it please your Grace, Jamaica, 6 August 1862.

SINCE I last had this honour, I have received a copy of the evidence and report in the case of the late special session at Morant Bay, and it is my duty to express my regret that the Lieutenant Governor did not do me the common justice, as is customary, to forward a copy of the evidence and report, to ask for explanation before he proceeded to condemn me. I feel that the Lieutenant Governor acted before the evidence was transmitted, and as it were by anticipation, and without having received any further explanation from me, and that the whole proceedings are wrong and disgraceful, but more so the letter, in the shape of a report, of the 4th July, of Mr. Custos Barclay to the Lieutenant Governor's secretary, and on which it appears action was taken. Your Grace will not fail to perceive that the report is a flagrantly unjust one, having no shadow of truth, and is contrary to evidence, on which alone (as any legal authority will pronounce) it should have been based, and I humbly submit that parties who could act in this way destroy the respect which is due to English rule and the constitution of the country, and tend to abrogate the law, and abnegate the conventional rules of civilized life; and if acts of wrong and oppression be in such a barefaced manner practised towards me what chance (as it is too often the case) has any of the humbler classes before a court composed of such justices as are parties to the report now under consideration, and what respect or confidence can be placed in such a member of the Executive Committee as Baron Ketelhodt, who so improperly conducted himself, and by his undue interference prejudiced others in the proceedings, and then subsequently adopting a report which was entirely at variance with the facts of the case, and which no doubt was intended for party purposes and to mislead the Lieutenant Governor, this must at least be a dangerous adviser.

Such is the painful, yet truthful state of Jamaica government, and I do humbly submit that great wrongs exist, and that the people of this country have many grievances of which to complain and require early remedy.

I impugn the report on various grounds:—

1st. As being diametrically opposed to the facts of the evidence, and that it should have been referred back for reconsideration. The Lieutenant Governor should have judged of the evidence itself and seen the false position in which the report adroitly laboured to put matters before him, and that such a proceeding was highly discreditable to those concerned, and to the good government of this Her Majesty's island.

2d. The report states that I had every scope and latitude in my endeavours to establish my charges, and that I utterly failed to do so. This is most untrue, and appears premeditated. I was not even allowed to open my case, and give the reasons which induced me to acquaint the Lieutenant Governor of the state of matters. I had hardly begun to speak when Baron Ketelhodt got up and took his hat, and said they did not come to be sermonized on the duties of magistrates; then, in order to get on, I at once went into the dry facts of evidence, calling on the rector and the lock-up keeper to give testimony; and your Grace will perceive by the evidence of these parties in what a wretched state matters were, and that I fully substantiated my case, and even more was proved, for the rector bestowed no care temporarily or spiritually on the unfortunate man; and further, I have had proof tendered to me to show that Thomas Williams was buried, not by the clerk of the church, as sworn by the rector, but by the keeper of the churchyard, a man living immorally; and further, that although I had 11 remaining witnesses to be examined, the justices would not hear them, and Baron Ketelhodt moved an adjournment, which was carried; it is therefore a flagrant untruth to assert that I had full scope and latitude. I feel oppressed that such a statement could have been ventured after what

what took place, and it convinces me that there is neither honour nor truth in those who were parties to these unjust proceedings.

3d. The condition of the lock-up on the 3d July was not the question, but what it was on and before the 6th May.

4th. I did not report the unfortunate man as a prisoner, but stated he was sent to the lock-up by the rector, and which the rector himself fully proved.

5th. With reference to the motives which induced the rector to send the sick man to the wretched lock-up, I have nothing to do. His subsequent neglect of the man, and his general answers, speak for themselves. According to my feeling and instincts of humanity an unclean prison was not a proper asylum to deposit a sick man, and the privy of that prison was the most unfit place to put him. I cannot reconcile all this to motives of humanity, for under such a plea any enormity may be shielded. The evidence of bodily and spiritual neglect of the unfortunate man exhibit a contempt of Christian duty, the responsibility of which is great before God and man.

6th. It is not shown where the gaol for prisoners is, nor who is the gaoler, and yet the report states that there is a gaol for debtors. Such a mockery of serious business is truly deplorable, and I can hardly yet bring myself to believe that I live under English rule in Jamaica. The report states that the churchwarden did all he could in reason to relieve the man; the evidence is, that the churchwarden never visited the lock-up during the the whole time the man was there.

Under the circumstances, I humbly hope it will be the pleasure of your Grace to order such steps as may seem proper, in order that justice may be established and wrongs redressed.

I learn that extraneous statements may be attempted to be made, but I beg to assure your Grace that I am free from any just imputations. It is now nearly 19 years since I was first appointed to a commission of the peace; I have, during this long period, served Her Majesty faithfully, and I trust satisfactorily; and in no case, whether I sat as senior justice or assistant, has any charge been made against me; on the contrary, I have, I may humbly say, always gained the satisfaction of the bench, as well as the parties concerned.

The attempt to remedy evils has roused a host of opponents here among those who look back to the dark days of slavery, and who seem inimical to free institutions, and hence it is that Jamaica remains in so deplorable a state. With the highest respect,

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. W. Gordon.*

P.S.—If I had said anything improper against the rector, he would have had his remedy at law against me, and the Lieutenant Governor was not called on to become his champion.

G. W. G.

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

(Circular.)

Governor's Secretary's Office, Encl. 2, in No. 6.
24 July, 1862.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to state that it having come to his knowledge that in some places the "lock-ups," or other places for the temporary confinement of prisoners, in the several parishes have not been visited for considerable periods of time, and that, in consequence thereof, occasional irregularities have arisen in their management, his Excellency would be obliged by your calling the attention of the justices in your parish to the importance of making frequent visits, at uncertain intervals, to inspect every place used for the confinement of prisoners within your parish, and to ascertain that such places are properly kept, and are adequately supplied with such requisites as may be necessary, calling the immediate attention of the authorities under whom the establishment or establishments are managed to any defects of management or deficiency of supplies which may come under the notice of such justices.

2. I am to add, that it is only by a zealous and persevering attention on the part of custodes and magistrates to this important duty that the proper management of the establishments can be hoped for, or the occurrences of those irregularities and abuses obviated which, if allowed to take place, justly bring public discredit and odium on the districts where they occur, as well as upon the justices through whose intervention they might have been prevented.

3. His Excellency feels assured that he has only to bring this important subject to the notice of the magistrates to ensure their earnest and willing co-operation in carrying out the objects stated.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

To his Honour the Custos of .

Enclosure 3, in No. 6.

Encl. 3, in No. 6.

Mr. *Barclay* to Mr. *Austin*.

Sir, Treasury, 9 August 1862.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your letter of the 6th instant, No. 1003, to which I beg to offer the following remarks, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

2. The want of night utensils in the lock-up at Morant Bay was never brought to my notice; the first I ever heard of it was at the special sessions of the 3d ultimo, when brought forward by Mr. G. W. Gordon's examination of one of his witnesses in a way to make the most of it. The want, as soon as known, was remedied, and instructions given to have the entrances into the female cell altered.

3. It is needless for me to go into further details, as I have herewith sent in my resignation of the custos-ship, and his Excellency will be able to appoint some fit person on the spot able to afford more full information than it is in my power to do.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Barclay.*

— No. 7. —

No. 7.

(No. 80.)

Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
8 Sept. 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G.

King's House, Spanish Town,
8 September 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 505, 13 October 1862, page 41.)

4 Sept. 1862. Memorial.

I HAVE the honour, at the request of a Mr. March, to forward a letter addressed by him to your Grace, enclosing a memorial to Her Majesty the Queen, emanating from a so-called public meeting at St. Thomas-in-the-East.

8 Sept. 1862.

I also transmit a copy of my reply.

2. The memorial is signed by a Mr. Clyne, as chairman of the meeting, but no other signatures are attached, nor is there anything to show how many individuals the meeting represented, or of what class, character, or influence.

3. The signature of the chairman may, I think, fairly lead to the presumption that it was a meeting of the lower and uneducated classes, and the absence of all other names to the assumption that it was neither a very numerous or influential meeting, although the population of the parish is stated in the resolutions attached to the memorial to be 26,000.

I am also aware that the custos of the parish declined to convene a public meeting at the request of the parties who have got up the memorial.

4. The letter enclosing the communication to your Grace having only reached me this morning, and the mail closing this evening, I am unable to make any inquiries, or furnish any report relative to the meeting or the parties attending it.

No. 41, of 8 July 1862, p. 3.
No 52, of 24 July 1862, p. 9.
No. 56, of 7 Aug. 1862, p. 18.
No. 58, of 8 Aug. 1862, p. 20.
No. 59, of 9 Aug. 1862, p. 22.
No. 63, of 21 Aug. 1862, p. 23.

As the whole question is, however, before your Grace in the various despatches named in the margin, there is the less occasion for any lengthened report now; but it may be as well to mention that the gentleman removed from the magistracy is a coloured person, and that the occasion has been taken, as I believe it generally is in Jamaica, to make the question one of colour, and enlist the sympathies of the lower orders on that ground.

For the same reason the press of the Colony, all the newspapers being under the editorship or control of coloured persons, has supported Mr. Gordon.

5. I ought perhaps to state that Mr. Gordon himself published most of the documents and other correspondence, but omitted all mention of his letter addressed to your Grace, under date 7th May (transmitted in my Despatch No. 63, of the 21st August), and which is indeed the key to his proceedings, and puts his own interpretation upon the scope and meaning to be attached to his letter to myself of the same date.

The existence of such a letter as that to your Grace, dated 7th May, being unknown to the memorialists or to the parties who discussed the question in the public journals, very erroneous views have been expressed of the merits of the case,

case, and I have gladly availed myself of the opportunity which the presentation of this memorial offered, to correct some of the misapprehensions which have prevailed, and to state that the public has not the means of judging fairly from not having the whole case fully given.

6. I trust your Grace will not consider that I have transgressed the propriety of official etiquette in so far referring to a letter addressed to your Grace, when the object has been to disabuse the minds of the coloured classes of the lower order (always liable to be easily imposed upon by designing persons, and naturally very excitable) of an impression that a wrong has been done to them in the removal of Mr. Gordon, or that the Executive is indisposed to remedy abuses, both of which doctrines it is the policy of certain parties to inculcate for party purposes.

7. It does not appear necessary for me to make any further remark than that of calling attention to the fact that, although the improprieties shown to have existed at Morant Bay lock-up were of a disgusting kind, they were remedied as soon as brought to the notice of the custos, even before the meeting of the justices in special session, and that therefore there was no occasion for going further into them. The remedy might also have been applied much earlier, or by Mr. Gordon himself, if he had done his duty as a magistrate, whilst the Executive had no power or control in the matter. That there was great neglect of duty on the part of the magistracy generally, and of the churchwardens in particular, there can be little doubt, and I felt it my duty to express officially, through the custos of the district, my strong disapprobation of the apathy and neglect of all the authorities concerned.

Possibly the fact of the lock-up being only used for the safe custody of prisoners in passing up and down in charge of policemen, and not as a gaol for the detention of prisoners, may have been one reason why the attention of the magistrates was not given to the state of its management; this does not constitute any valid excuse, and it is much to be lamented that there should be any institutions of this kind in the country at all which are not directly under the control and management of the Executive.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K. G., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

To his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle,* &c., &c. Encl. 1, in No. 7

May it please your Grace, Kingston, Jamaica, 4 September 1862.

I HAVE the honour to send inclosed a memorial, and annexed a copy of the resolutions passed at a public meeting held at Morant Bay, in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, on Wednesday, the 27th of August last, and I am directed by the chairman of that meeting to request that your Grace will be pleased to have the same presented to Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen in the most acceptable way; and soliciting your Grace's kind attention to the matter.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. Foster March,*
Secretary, Public Meeting.

Enclosure 2, in No. 7.

To Her most Gracious Majesty *Victoria,* Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, &c. &c. &c. Encl. 2, in No. 7.

The Memorial of your Majesty's most loyal and devoted subjects inhabiting the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, in the island of Jamaica, assembled in public meeting:

Showeth,

THAT we, the memorialists, in approaching your Majesty with feelings of most profound attachment and loyalty to your throne and government, pray that it may please the Great Giver of all good to add many years to that reign which has been characterised by

so much equity, justice, and good-will, and which stands forth with so much lustre before all nations.

We, your memorialists, beg most humbly to submit to the notice of your Gracious Majesty the present ill-regulated condition of this island, in the hope that it may please your Majesty to adopt such measures of redress as your Majesty in your wisdom may deem equitable.

It is now twenty-eight years since, that, under the influence of the English throne, the blessings of emancipation were conferred on the British West Indies; for blessings so great we desire to express the deepest feelings of gratitude to Almighty God, and trust we shall ever properly show our appreciation of the same. But, whilst we would gratefully recollect such valued blessings, we have yet great difficulties to encounter, and many improvements to make, before we can take that high position among nations which is fit and becoming every country under your Majesty's enlightened government.

Early after the Emancipation it was your Majesty's pleasure to direct the Governors of this Colony should be jealous of the condition of the mass of the population: this injunction of your Majesty of late seems to have escaped that attention it so well deserved, and the inhabitants generally, and more particularly of this parish, are consequently sufferers.

Your memorialists feel pained to state that one of your Majesty's most useful and honourable magistrates, George William Gordon, Esq., who has for a long period faithfully discharged the functions of his office, and in a way most creditably to himself, has lately been most improperly deprived of his commissions by the Lieutenant Governor, for simply, in the discharge of his duty, reporting the ill-treatment of a poor sick man named "Thomas Williams," placed in a lock-up prison, and also for mentioning the wretched way in which prisoners are treated when in the lock-up, and other prisons in this parish (and in others) which loudly call for great reform.

That your memorialists consider that the proceedings against Mr. Gordon were irregular, unconstitutional, and altogether unwarrantable; and that his removal from the magistracy is a wrong to himself and a grievance to the people; and that this conduct, as will be seen by the correspondence and evidence, if transmitted by the Lieutenant Governor to your Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, is such as should have entitled him to approval and not to censure.

That the principles involved in this matter are serious to us as a people, and we pray that your Gracious Majesty may be pleased to institute an inquiry to remove the wrongs from which we are sufferiag.

We, the emancipated classes, and others, are glad for the opportunity of acknowledging most heartily and humbly our grateful recollection for the kind interest your Majesty has been pleased always to manifest, and trusting for a contiuuance of the same, we, your Majesty's most devoted and loyal subjects, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) *H. Clyne*,
Chairman, Public Meeting.

W. Foster March,
Secretary.

Resolutions.

At a large public meeting held at Morant Bay, on Wednesday, 27th August 1862, *Henry Clyne*, Esq., was called to the chair, and Mr. *William Foster March* was appointed Secretary by the Chairman.

1st.—Moved by W. H. Nichol, and seconded by Mr. George M'Intosh.

Resolved,—That this meeting deplores the long-neglected state of this parish, and the want of necessary institutions, and also existing abuses so prevalent, an exemplification of which has so recently been manifested in the late special sessions of the peace held at Morant Bay.

2d.—Moved by Mr. A. G. Mesquetto, and seconded by Mr. William Grant.

Resolved,—That this meeting, duly appreciating the great and important services rendered to the people of this country, and the obligations which the community in general, and especially this parish, owe to G. W. Gordon, Esq., for his manly and benevolent conduct in endeavouring to effect reforms, remedy abuses, and to maintain the cause of truth and justice, desire to tender to him their sincere thanks and gratitude for the same.

3d.—Moved by the Rev. Mr. Palmer, and seconded by Mr. G. B. Clarke.

Resolved,—That this meeting deeply regrets that the Lieutenant-Governor has removed G. W. Gordon, Esq., from the commissions of the peace for this and other parishes, and that the regret deepens because no proper cause can be shown for such a proceeding, and it is therefore unjust and oppressive; and this meeting fully testifies to the fact that the rector of the parish did send to the lock-up prison at Morant Bay the sick man, Thomas Williams, who was placed in the privy of that then most miserable place.

4th.—Moved

4th.—Moved by Mr. C. Sullivan, and seconded by W. M. Alvarenga.

Resolved,—That a memorial be prepared and signed by the chairman and secretary of this meeting, setting forth the foregoing resolutions, showing that Mr. Gordon has been removed from the commission of the peace for doing his duty, and the grievance felt under the circumstances by Her Majesty's humble, dutiful, and loyal subjects in this parish, and praying for such remedies as Her Majesty may consider the exigencies of the case requires; and also stating the fact that in this parish, containing upwards of 26,000 inhabitants, there is not a poor-house, hospital, or proper gaol for debtors; and showing, also, that up to the time of Mr. Gordon drawing attention, the neglected condition of the prisons, and the inhuman treatment of the destitute poor generally.

5th.—Moved by Mr. W. Smith, and seconded by Mr. W. Reefe.

Resolved,—That this meeting takes this opportunity of bearing testimony to the truth contained in Mr. Gordon's statements in his letter to Lieutenant Governor of the 7th May last, and that in the opinion of this meeting a special sessions of the peace of this parish, was a most improper court to which Mr. Gordon's charges should be referred, since the gentlemen forming that court were sitting on their own case, and therefore were improper persons to determine its merits, as was proved by their unseemly conduct on that day.

6th.—Moved by Mr. W. F. March, and seconded by Mr. W. Mitchell.

Resolved,—That the chairman of this meeting do forward to G. W. Gordon, Esq. a copy of the foregoing resolutions, and also send the memorial to Her most Gracious Majesty and beloved Queen to the Lieutenant Governor, to be sent by him in the usual way through his Grace the Secretary of the States and Colonies; and that the resolutions be published once in each of the Jamaica papers; and also send a copy to the London "Times" and other English papers, and to Lord Brougham, Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord John Russell, John Bright, Esq., and other friends to the cause of liberty.

(True copy.)

W. Foster March, Secretary. (signed) *H. Clyne*, Chairman.

Enclosure 3, in No. 7.

Government Secretary's Office,
8 September 1862.

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acknowledge the receipt of a memorial signed by the chairman of a public meeting held at Morant Bay on the 27th August, and addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, and to inform you that the same shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies in due course. Encl. 3, in No. 7.

2. The Lieutenant Governor cannot refrain from expressing his regret that a meeting held professedly for the good object of taking into consideration the neglected state of the parish, and the want of necessary institutions, should have pledged itself in reference to occurrences which could be but imperfectly known to it, and upon an ex parte statement.

3. No one can deplore more sincerely than his Excellency the want of adequate institutions, not only in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, but throughout the entire Colony. No one can lament more than he does the occasional occurrence of abuse or irregularity in the management of such institutions as do exist. But such casual improprieties are liable to occur in any community, and in every part of the world. In Jamaica, perhaps, there has been a greater difficulty in preventing occasional mismanagement, or in rectifying it when it does arise, because Jamaica is exceptionably and differently situated from most of the British Colonies in regard to many of its institutions and arrangements, which removes them in a great measure from Executive control. The difficulty also of obtaining competent and trustworthy persons to occupy public positions upon the low rate of remuneration which the Colony is able to offer is another impediment; but, perhaps, the greatest obstacle of all arises from the apathy or want of public spirit on the part of those locally interested, and upon whom ought naturally to devolve the vigilant watching over and supervision of all arrangements of public interest in their parish. Had this vigilance and supervision been exercised in St. Thomas-in-the-East, the abuses which existed at the lock-up at Morant Bay could never have arisen, without almost immediate detection, nor could they have been continued for a single day after such detection.

4. With regard to this particular case, the public meeting may not have been aware that the lock-up at Morant Bay is in no respect under the control, direction, or authority of the Executive. It is entirely under the churchwardens and the justices, who are the parties responsible for its proper management. Had Mr. Gordon's object been solely to remedy evils which he found existing there, he had it in his power to do so as one of the justices in whom the control of the lock-up is vested. It was the duty of Mr. Gordon, or of any

other justice cognizant of any irregularity, at once to have communicated with the churchwardens, by whom the lock-up keeper was appointed, and under whose orders any supplies or repairs required have to be provided. If the churchwardens upon such application had refused or neglected to do their duty, Mr. Gordon had a ready remedy in applying to the custos of the parish to hold a special session under 20 Vict. c. 2, s. 20.

5. Again, in reference to the unfortunate man, Williams, if Mr. Gordon's sympathies were really enlisted on his behalf, why did he not himself relieve a man whom he professes to believe was dying for want of common necessaries; or, if unwilling or unable to afford such relief personally, why did he not seek out the churchwardens, and compel them to do their duty as the functionaries upon whom devolved the responsibility of supporting the destitute in the parish? Why did he not cause Williams to be removed from the privy, when he found him in that place, and was informed that he had been there for several days?

6. The Lieutenant Governor has been much pained to notice both that the public meeting and the newspapers of the Colony have ascribed the removal of Mr. Gordon from the magistracy to his having complained of the existence of abuses. The action of his Excellency has also been attributed to the advice or influence of others. The Lieutenant Governor willingly accepts the entire responsibility of the course which has been adopted, but he cannot help remarking that, with every desire that men should meet and discuss freely public questions in which they are interested, and with all respect for the press, which is so all-powerful for good or for evil, it is much to be regretted that such strong and positive opinions should be expressed upon matters only partially known, and that those in authority should be held up to obloquy on such partial information. The Lieutenant Governor readily acquits both the public meeting and the press of any intentional mis-statement or mis-judgment, but it does not the less become an injustice to those who are precluded by the rules of the public service from defending themselves, or even giving such explanation or information as would enable the public to judge more correctly.

7. The Lieutenant Governor, therefore, gladly avails himself of this opportunity to state that Mr. Gordon was not removed from the magistracy for pointing out or endeavouring to correct abuses; God forbid that such an attempt should ever be made to stifle inquiry. It is alike the duty, the wish, and the endeavour of his Excellency to find out, and as far as in his power lies to correct, every abuse, and to remedy all important deficiencies in the administration of the Colony, whether in connection with the arrangements of the Executive or of the parishes. Had Mr. Gordon confined himself to allegations of abuses existing, or of deficiencies requiring to be provided for, he might still have been in the commission of the peace.

8. But when Mr. Gordon, neglecting his own duty, and leaving unremedied the evils which he said existed, made those alleged evils the groundwork upon which to build up a deliberate, unjust, and most malevolent imputation against a worthy clergyman, the rector of the parish, it became the duty of the Lieutenant Governor, upon ascertaining, not only that this imputation was unfounded, but that Mr. Gordon knew it to be so at the time he made the charge, to remove from the magistracy one who so disgraced the Queen's commission, and whose retention on the bench after such an occurrence, would have been an insult to all the other magistrates in the Colony.

9. Neither the public meeting nor the press could be aware that Mr. Gordon has been his own interpreter as to the object and meaning of his letter to the Lieutenant Governor of the 7th May, but when a body of the Queen's subjects petition Her Majesty to redress a grievance which is only supposed to exist because they have not a full knowledge of all the circumstances of the case, it is only right that the means of judging more correctly should be afforded them. The Lieutenant Governor has therefore to inform the memorialists that at the time Mr. Gordon sent his letter of the 7th May to his Excellency he, under the same date, addressed a communication to the Secretary of State, making sweeping, scandalous, and libellous charges against the clergy of the Church of England in Jamaica, as a body, and enclosing a copy of his letter to the Lieutenant Governor, as an illustration of the conduct of one of them in particular, thus unmistakeably developing the object and scope of that letter.

10. Nor must it be forgotten that when informed, in the Governor's Secretary's letter of the 13th June, that his charges against Mr. Cooke were unfounded, and an explanation asked for, Mr. Gordon neither gave it nor withdrew the charges, and the same persistence in withholding any expression of regret at having made a malevolent and false imputation upon the character of a respectable clergyman characterized Mr. Gordon's conduct at the investigation held before the special sessions.

11. The Lieutenant Governor may also remark that it has been attempted to direct the public attention from the real bearing of the case by representing that the investigation before the justices was closed before all Mr. Gordon's witnesses were examined. But those witnesses were only tendered, according to Mr. Gordon's own evidence, "to prove the past condition of the lock-up, and other matters connected therewith;" a subject which it was comparatively unnecessary to investigate further, since a sufficient amount of mismanagement and neglect had been already proved to call for the removal, by the parochial authorities,

rities, of the lock-up keeper, for a censure upon the authorities under whose management it was, and for the immediate remedy of the evils which were shown to have existed. Indeed those evils had already, to a great extent, been remedied, even before the special meeting took place; another proof of how easily, and much earlier, this might have been done had Mr. Gordon been really anxious to have them corrected, and done his duty by taking those steps which were open to him as one of the justices in whom control of the lock-up rested.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. F. March,
and the Gentlemen memorialising the Queen.

— No. 8. —

(No. 84.)

No. 8.
Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
23 Sept. 1862.

EXTRACT from a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 23 September 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 511, 31 October 1862, page 41.)

IN my Despatch, Jamaica, No. 80,* of the 8th instant, I transmitted a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, purporting to emanate from a public meeting held in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

* Page 26.

2. In forwarding that document I remarked, that as it only reached me on the morning of the day when the mail was to close for England I could not make any inquiries or report relative to the meeting or the parties attending it.

3. I have now the honour to forward a report, furnished to me confidentially† by * * * * * * *

4. The two remarkable points illustrated by the report are—first, the utter insignificance of the number attending the so-called meeting, only some 20 persons out of a reported population of 26,000; and secondly, the fact that of these few a considerable number do not belong to the district at all.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 9. —

(No. 88.)

No. 9.
Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
9 Oct. 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 9 October 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 515, 11 November 1862, page 41.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Grace's Despatch, Jamaica, No. 490,‡ of the 5th ultimo, in reference to Mr. G. W. Gordon.

‡ Page 37.

2. In accordance with your instructions, I have caused Mr. Gordon to be informed of the decision at which your Grace has arrived. A copy of this communication is enclosed.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon.
7 October 1862.

3. As Mr. Barclay has resigned the custos-ship of the parish on account of age and growing infirmities, I have not forwarded to him a copy of your Despatch, but I will communicate it instead to the new custos, the Baron Von Ketelhodt, as soon as he returns from a visit to the parish, upon which he is now engaged.

Mr. Barclay to Mr. Austin.
9 August 1862.

4. Your Grace would notice, from a circular which I addressed to the custodes of

† This Report being confidential is not printed.

* Page 23.

of the different parishes (transmitted in Despatch, No. 63*, of 21st August), that although disapproving of Mr. Gordon's conduct in some particulars I did not undervalue the disclosures brought to light by his agency, but at once urged upon the justices throughout the Island the duty and necessity of frequently visiting all places of confinement within their districts. I also expressed my strong disapprobation of the neglect and apathy exhibited on the part of the authorities in whom the management of the lock-up at St. Thomas-in-the-East rested. The Inspector of Prisons was requested to visit all the lock-ups within his reach whilst on his tour of visitation to the different prisons; and since your Grace's Despatch reached me I have issued instructions for the stipendiary magistrates also to visit regularly all places of confinement within their respective parishes.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Barclay. 6 August 1862.

5. In assuring your Grace that ever since my arrival in the Colony I have been unceasing in my exertions, both by precept and example, to obtain a better management and a more effectual supervision of the various places of confinement, I am at the same time bound to state that there are unusual difficulties in the way of securing in Jamaica all that could be desired in this respect. The Island is an extensive one, the institutions are widely scattered over it; the climate is unfavourable to great bodily exertion, and there are no inns or other places of accommodation for persons travelling. The expense of moving about is also very great. There is only one paid Inspector of Prisons (the Honourable A. G. Fyfe), who, though a most able and valuable public servant, could not physically undertake the labour which a regular and sufficient visitation would entail. Nor are there a sufficient number of stipendiary justices to do it, there being now only nine left to perform duties and attend to districts for which formerly 60 were provided.

6. On the other hand, the unpaid justices who ought to take an interest in and exert themselves to keep in good order the various institutions of their respective parishes, do not do so, but exhibit an amount of apathy and neglect which is most lamentable. It is quite true that in several of the parishes it has often been very difficult to get together a sufficient number of justices to constitute a bench for the trial of pending cases; and the interests of the public, but especially of the poorer classes, have consequently suffered greatly. The only remedy for this state of things will be the institution of paid justices supported by the Colony, and to this it must eventually come; but at present it seems very questionable whether the Legislature, with so many other sources of expenditure on hand still to be provided for, will yet undertake this additional one.

7. The gradual decay of the fortunes of Jamaica, and the almost entire cessation of the arrival of new colonists of position, ability, and intelligence, to take the place of those who have retired or died off, have thrown the Colony and the management of its institutions for the most part into the hands of a very different class of persons from that which formerly existed, and the result is, that it is very difficult to obtain competent and trustworthy persons either for the public departments or for the magistracy; and it is impossible, with such elements to work with, but that there must occasionally arise many unpleasant or discreditable occurrences. A very considerable portion of my time is taken up either in inquiring into alleged abuses or considering the result of inquiries made by my directions, or in efforts to prevent abuses arising; and the difficulties in both cases can only be appreciated by those who are thoroughly acquainted with the state and nature of West Indian communities.

I have, &c.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 9.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Gordon.*

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 7 October 1862.

Encl. 1, in No. 9.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor, with reference to the correspondence which has taken place on the subject of the Morant Bay lock-up, to state that his Excellency has been instructed to inform you that the Duke of Newcastle has considered attentively the evidence taken by the justices, and whilst he acknowledges the service rendered by

by you in exposing the flagrant abuses of the lock-up house, his Grace regrets that you accompanied it with a wilful and inexcusable misrepresentation of the conduct of the rector of the parish, of which misrepresentation, his Grace adds, your removal from the commission of the peace is a just and necessary consequence.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

G. W. Gordon, Esq.

Enclosure 2, in No. 9.

Mr. *Barclay* to Mr. *Austin.*

Encl. 2, in No. 9.

Sir, Treasury, 9 August 1862.

I BEG most respectfully to place in the hands of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor my resignation of the custos-ship of St. Thomas-in-the-East. I have been induced to take this step entirely on account of the growing infirmities of age, and my inability to attend to the duties of the office as I could wish and as the public interests require.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Barclay.*

Hugh W. Austin, Esq.,
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. *Austin* to Mr. *Barclay.*

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 6 August 1862.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to enclose extract from the evidence of Mr. Munro, in charge of the lock-up at Morant Bay, and to request you to call the attention of the authorities, under whom Munro holds his office, to his own sworn statement, that although he has been lock-up keeper for 15 months, he had taken no sufficient measures to secure proper utensils for the use of prisoners when shut up at night, but, that on the contrary, he had been in the habit of locking up as many as 10 prisoners together without any conveniences, allowing them to relieve nature upon the ground where they were confined, and letting those deposits remain all night; that after receiving money from the churchwardens to buy barrels to make tubs, Munro used the barrels for another purpose.

2. I am also to enclose Munro's subsequent report of the 31st July, from which it will be seen that during the year ended 31st July, 145 males and 16 female prisoners have been confined in the lock-up, often many together, and subject to the disgusting circumstances already referred to.

3. His Excellency is of opinion that any person who could allow such abuses to remain unrectified, is utterly unfitted to be in charge of a lock-up. It was clearly Munro's duty to have called the attention of the magistrates to the state of things existing, if on speaking to the churchwardens no attention was paid to his complaint.

4. His Excellency desires me to call attention to the circumstances sworn to, that the entrance to the female cells is through the room occupied by the keeper of the lock-up, an exceedingly improper arrangement, and one which could, his Excellency understands, have been easily rectified at a trifling expense, by boarding off a separate entrance.

5. In conclusion, I am to observe that his Excellency cannot dismiss this subject without expressing his strong disapprobation of the neglect and apathy exhibited on the part of the authorities in whom the management of the lock-up has been vested.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Governor's Secretary.

The Honourable A. Barclay,
Custos, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

— No. 10. —

No. 10.
Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
3 December 1862.

(No. 121.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 3 December 1862.

My Lord Duke, (Answered, No. 535, 9 January 1863, page 42.)

22 Nov. 1862. I HAVE the honour to forward a letter addressed by Mr. G. W. Gordon to your Grace.

I think it right to state that Mr. Gordon's letter, though dated the 22d November, did not reach me until too late to transmit it by the last mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
&c, &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

To the Duke of *Newcastle*, Secretary for the Colonies, &c.

Encl. in No. 10. May it please your Grace, Jamaica, 22 November 1862.

I HAVE received two communications from the Lieutenant Governor, of which the enclosed is a copy.

2. Her Majesty the Queen deputes certain duties to magistrates, which cannot be performed by herself, and it is Her prerogative at pleasure to recall Her commission, and if from any cause it was found necessary to withdraw the trust reposed in me, I should have been most willing to have resigned the same; but after a service of nearly 20 years, and when in the execution of my duties your Grace admits that I had exposed flagrant abuses, I feel that I was entitled to some little consideration, and not to be thus summarily and harshly dealt with; and as I made no misrepresentation against the rector, and repudiate the motive attributed to me, I therefore think it is due that I should require in common justice to know from your Grace the particulars, and on what grounds I am charged with wilful and inexcusable misrepresentation, as being a just and necessary cause for my dismissal.

3. The responsible position which your Grace holds as Secretary for the Colonies is the highest appeal for all colonial questions and grievances, and therefore all decisions by your Grace are received with deep interest, and of great importance to the community.

4. Your Grace will concur with me that it is contrary to the British constitution to condemn a man without an impartial hearing, and it is wrong to conjure up a charge against any one, and then, without even due investigation, to pass judgment and sentence. Yet this is the position in which your Grace's decision has left me; and it is so subversive of the first principles of justice, that I cannot help thinking that your Grace has been deceived by erroneous statements, for neither in my letter to the Lieutenant Governor, nor in the evidence taken before the special session, can it be proved that I made any misrepresentation about the rector, or any other party; and until I am informed of the nature of such alleged misrepresentation, and since I am also at a loss to perceive in what way my letter to the Lieutenant Governor, which led to the correspondence between myself and him, is connected with the unjust charge laid against me, and for which I am dismissed, I must continue to feel I am deeply injured, and as a British subject, and one who has long served the Crown, I trust that in common justice your Grace will be pleased to order the information to be afforded me.

5. The attempt to cast an unmerited reproach on my character is most grievous and trying, and therefore I trust that your Grace will not consider me too importunate in endeavouring to protect that which every man feels to be dear to him. Relying on the equitable consideration of your Grace,

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Gordon.*

Sir, Governor's Secretary's Office, 7 October 1862.

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor, with reference to the correspondence which has taken place on the subject of the Morant Bay lock-up, to state that his Excellency has been instructed to inform you that the Duke of Newcastle has considered attentively the evidence taken by the justices, and whilst he acknowledges the service rendered by you in exposing the flagrant abuses of the lock-up house, his Grace regrets that you accompanied it by a wilful

wilful and inexcusable misrepresentation of the conduct of the rector of the parish, "of which misrepresentation," his Grace adds, "your removal from the commission of the peace is a just and necessary consequence."

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*,
Governor's Secretary.

G. W. Gordon, Esq., Kingston.

Governor's Secretary's Office, 22 October 1862.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you that his Grace the Secretary of State has acknowledged the receipt of your letter of the 6th August 1862.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin*,
Governor's Secretary.

G. W. Gordon, Esq., Kingston.

— No. 11. —

(No. 122.)

No. 11.
Lieutenant Governor Eyre to the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.
3 December 1862.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor *Eyre* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G.

King's House, 3 December 1862.
(Answered, No. 532, 7 January 1863, page 42.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to your Grace by Mr. Henry Clyne, covering copy of certain resolutions passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East. 27 October 1862.

Mr. Clyne's letter, though dated the 27th October, did not reach me until the 24th of November, too late to forward by last mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K. G.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 11.

To the Duke of *Newcastle*, Colonial Secretary, &c.

St. Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica,
27 October 1862.

Encl. in No. 11.

May it please your Grace,

BY direction of a large public meeting of the inhabitants of the parish in this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, held on the 13th instant, of which I was chairman, I have now the honour to wait on your Grace with enclosed copy of resolutions passed at said meeting, and to which I humbly crave your Grace's kind attention and consideration on behalf of the poor people of the parish, who feel a deep interest in the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Clyne*, Chairman.

At a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of St. Thomas-in-the East, Jamaica, held at Morant Bay on Monday, the 13th day of October 1862,

The following resolutions were unanimously carried:—

Moved by Mr. A. G. Mesquitta, and seconded by Mr. George B. Clarke.

Resolved 1st, That this meeting has seen with surprise and concern the letter sent by the Lieutenant Governor, on the subject of the memorial from this parish to Her Majesty the Queen. The said memorial having been sent to the Lieutenant Governor in a letter addressed to his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be presented to Her Majesty, it did not in the opinion of this meeting come at present within the notice of the Lieutenant Governor for explanation.

Moved by Mr. Thomas W. Miles; seconded by Mr. Charles Sullivan.

Resolved 2d, That this meeting takes the opportunity of assuring the Lieutenant Governor that the parishioners are well aware of what they are doing, and of the righteous cause which they have to deal with, being fully sensible by personal observation and otherwise of the nature of the proceedings at the Special Session at Morant Bay, on the 3d July last, which was based on the letter of the Lieutenant Governor; the court did not go into evidence of any charges against the rector, for none were contained in Mr. Gordon's letter, sent by the Lieutenant Governor for consideration, although by the testimony of the rector himself most serious matters were proved. The rector's character is well known, and the statement that Mr. Gordon had built up malevolent charges against him is in no way shown or warranted by the proceedings which have taken place.

Moved by Mr. Wm. Reefe; seconded by Mr. James Ross Richards.

Resolved 3d, That this meeting feels aggrieved by the improper and uncourteous epithets which were contained in the letter of the Lieutenant Governor respecting Mr. Gordon, and deeply regrets that the opportunity should have been sought of putting forth statements so greatly at variance with the real state of the case; and this meeting bears testimony to the fact of Mr. Gordon's upright, impartial, honourable, and courteous conduct as a magistrate, and which has always been justly appreciated by the inhabitants and community in general.

Moved by Mr. Charles Sullivan; seconded by Mr. Geo. McIntosh.

Resolved 4th, That this meeting regrets to perceive that the Lieutenant Governor has deemed it expedient to evade the rules of the public service, which precludes officials giving explanations, by having addressed a letter, such as that now under consideration, embracing subjects not in question, to the secretary of the late meeting, and thereby constraining the rejoinders which are now being made, and forcing this meeting to a controversy with the head of the Executive.

Moved by Mr. James Ross Richards; seconded by Mr. T. Miles.

Resolved 5th, That in the opinion of this meeting, even admitting that Mr. Gordon did make charges against Mr. Cooke the rector, it was no part of the Lieutenant Governor's duty to proceed to discharge the offices of prosecutor, jury, and judge, and to punish for the alleged offence.

Moved by Mr. W. Felford; seconded by Mr. A. Laing.

Resolved 6th, That a copy of these resolutions, signed by the chairman, be sent to the Lieutenant Governor, and also to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in the usual way, and be published in each of the newspapers of the mother country and this Island.

(signed) *Henry Clyne*, Chairman.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 490.)

No. 1.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
5 September 1862.
* Pages 3, 9, and 18.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing Street, 5 September 1862.

I HAVE received your Despatches Nos. 41,* 52,* and 56,* of the 8th and 24th* July and 7th August, with their enclosures, on the subject of the representations made by Mr. Gordon of abuses which he had found to exist in the lock-up house in Morant Bay, and of the treatment of a man named Williams, who was sent to the lock-up house by Mr. Cooke, the rector of the parish in which it is situate.

You had directed the custos of the parish, Mr. Barclay, to summon a special sessions of the justices to inquire into the subject, who met accordingly, and came to a resolution that the lock-up house was a very good one for its purpose, and that the charges brought by Mr. Gordon against the rector were totally unfounded.

You thereupon superseded Mr. Gordon in the commission of the peace, and against this act Mr. Gordon appeals to me.

I am unable to concur in the views which you have taken of the proceedings of the justices, nor can I regard the recapitulation contained in your Despatch, No. 52, as an accurate and complete statement of the facts disclosed in evidence.

You describe the resolution arrived at by the justices under the local Act 20 Vict. c. 11, s. 20, as a judicial decision. It was a decision on an inquiry into abuses for which the justices were themselves responsible, inasmuch as the lock-up house was under their management, and the keeper of it was appointed by them and the vestry. It is in evidence that during the tenure of office of the present keeper the lock-up house had never been visited by the justices or any of them till it was visited by Mr. Gordon.

Under these circumstances I am of opinion that in forming your judgment you should have looked to the evidence rather than to the resolution of the justices, and especially that you should have had regard to the evidence of the gaoler.

The gaoler was not indeed described by Mr. Gordon in his letter of the 7th May, as supposed by you, to be "the most able and exemplary supervisor of a prison that he knew," that description having been applied by Mr. Gordon, not to the keeper of the lock-up house, but to the keeper of the district prison. But the keeper of the lock-up house, whatever else he was, was at all events a perfectly credible witness as against abuses in which he was himself implicated. For though, according to Mr. Alverauga's evidence, he had at one time imputed them to the churchwarden, Mr. Mackenzie, as having refused the necessary supplies; yet before the justices he took the blame to himself, and as far as was in his power exonerated Mr. Mackenzie, to whom it appears that he considered himself to have owed his appointment.

On the evidence of this gaoler there can be no doubt that the gross and disgraceful abuses charged by Mr. Gordon against the lock-up house did exist in it up to the time when it was visited by Mr. Gordon. After his visit, it is true, that all traces of them had been removed, and the lock-up house was found, first by Mr. Cooke and afterwards by the justices, in a state of which he and they could express their approval.

But when the justices, finding the lock-up house in this state, then, simply resolved that it was a very good one, without the slightest notice of the scandalous abuses which had been proved against it, they evaded the whole question,

and when they refused to hear 11 out of 14 witnesses tendered by Mr. Gordon, on the ground that the evidence proffered related not to the then but to the past state of the lock-up house, they betrayed their duty.

I am of opinion, therefore, that the justices, and Mr. Gordon himself as one of them, were guilty of great neglect in leaving the lock-up house under their management so long unvisited; that Mr. Gordon rendered a substantial public service, though a tardy one, in representing to you the abuses which he detected, and that the justices took a discreditable course in overlooking the facts which were proved before them and suppressing the evidence by which it was proposed to prove more. Mr. Mackenzie, the churchwarden, who was the more culpable, inasmuch as the lock-up house was placed under his more immediate supervision, does not appear to have attempted any vindication of his conduct.

I have now to advert to Mr. Gordon's misrepresentation of the conduct of Mr. Cooke, the rector of Morant Bay, in the case of Williams. Mr. Gordon, in his letter of the 7th May, writes: "The rector of the parish actually sent in" [to the lock-up house] "a poor sick man, on what authority I cannot find out, nor do I know how the rector could do so at all, and this wretched creature was, up to last night, from the 26th April last, actually living in the privy of this unventilated place. There he was put, there he remained, there he ate and drank, and slept there. Better had he slept the sleep of death than undergo this slow process of poisoning, which it really is. And I submit that the Attorney General has a good action in this case." The report you received of the case from the custos is as follows: "A poor wandering stranger, far gone in dropsy and since dead, called at the rectory late in the evening, seeking food and lodging; and the rector having no means of accommodating him sent him to the lock-up, with directions to the keepers to receive him and have his wants provided for; and more, he sent and informed the churchwarden who immediately sent 4*s.* to provide necessaries, when the rector considered the case off his hands, having done all he could." You quote this account as adopting it, but I cannot accept it as conveying a correct impression of the facts as they appear in the evidence. The facts as I find them are, that Williams, the sick man, came to the rectory at six o'clock in the evening of the 26th April; that the rector sent him to the lock-up house to be taken care of for the night, giving him 1*s.*; that the man lived on this shilling and the charity of the gaoler for about nine days, during about three of which he was able to walk and went in and out; that on the 3d of May the gaoler went to the rector, and told him the man was unable to move, and then, and not before, the rector gave the gaoler a letter to the churchwarden's son (acting for the churchwarden) requesting that 3*s.* might be given him, which in the course of a day or two was given accordingly; that on the 6th May Mr. Gordon visited the lock-up house and found the man lying in the privy, where he had been lying for five days. It is stated that he could not be induced to come out; but it appears, that originally at least, he had no choice, for the gaoler says, in answer to Mr. Gordon, "You inquired why he was there; I told you I had prisoners, and nowhere else to put him, and he said he would go in there." And further on, "The upstairs where the females are put were empty the first week Williams came there. He was in such a bad state I could not put him upstairs." During the period of about nine days before the 3*s.* was procured for Williams, the gaoler says he gave him a portion of his own food. Afterwards (whether before or after Mr. Gordon's visit does not appear), the churchwarden gave him a suit of clothes. On the 6th May, and immediately after his visit to the lock-up house, Mr. Gordon went to the rector and made a remonstrance, in consequence of which the rector went, about three days afterwards, to see Williams at the lock-up house, taking Dr. Murrough, the parish doctor, with him. The rector asked Williams what business he had in the privy, and Williams said he could not get up, he could not walk about. The gaoler excused himself by saying he could not get him to come out. Dr. Murrough examined Williams, found him to have dropsy and disease of the kidneys, said his case was hopeless, and did nothing for him. The rector said he would send him to the hospital by the first boat he could get, and made an attempt to find a boat, but without success, and about 11 days afterwards, that is about the 20th May, the man died, having been removed before his death from the privy to the lock-up room, which by that time was empty. Besides the 3*s.* first given, the

the churchwarden gave, at some, subsequent time, 2 *s.*, but he never visited Williams. These sums, with the 1 *s.* given by the rector, make 6 *s.*, which was given to support Williams from the 26th April, when he was sent to the lock-up house till the 20th May, when, or about which time, he died.

The difference between the statement of the custos in vindication of the rector and the facts brought out in the evidence is, that according to the custos, the rector sent Williams to the keeper with directions to receive him and have his wants provided for; "and more, he sent and informed the churchwarden, who immediately sent 4 *s.* to provide necessaries, when the rector considered the case off his hands," evidently implying that all this was done at once; whereas, the facts are, that for seven days after sending Williams to the lock-up house with 1 *s.*, the rector took no further account of him, and it was only on the 3d May when the gaoler went to say he was unable to move, that the rector wrote the request for 3 *s.* to be given him, which seems to have been actually given in about nine days. The rector, however, states in his letter of the 23d May to Mr. Austin, though not in his evidence, that when he sent Williams to the lock-up house, "the understanding was, that the man, if able to travel, should come again to me, and I would, if there was a vessel to sail for Kingston, give him a passage and a letter to procure him admittance into the public hospital." And the rector, after the visit he paid to Williams in consequence of Mr. Gordon's remonstrance, seems to have been desirous to pay for a passage for him if one could have been procured.

Such are the facts, as I collect them, on which I am called upon to judge of the step taken by you in removing Mr. Gordon from the commission of the peace for having maligned Mr. Cooke, the rector of Morant Bay.

As to the merits of Mr. Cooke's course in dealing with the case of Williams, it is no part of my duty to express an opinion. The measure of charity and humanity which Mr. Cooke or any other person may see fit to extend to his fellow-creatures, is a matter with which the Secretary of State has no concern. This man in his extremity met with no abundant measure of it either from the rector, the churchwarden, the doctor, the gaoler, or Mr. Gordon himself. But it is clear that the rector's intentions were not otherwise than charitable, as far as they went, and the charge brought against him by Mr. Gordon of having sent the man to prison by an unlawful act of authority, was a wilful and unpardonable misrepresentation, for which, being made in the exercise of his office as one of the justices having the management of the lock-up house, you were justified in striking his name out of the commission of the peace.

You will be pleased to intimate to Mr. Gordon that I have considered attentively the evidence taken by the justices, and whilst I acknowledge the service rendered by him in exposing the flagrant abuses of the lock-up house, I regret that he has accompanied it by a wilful and inexcusable misrepresentation of the conduct of the rector of the parish, of which misrepresentation his removal from the commission of the peace is a just and necessary consequence.

I have to request that you will communicate a copy of this Despatch to the custos, Mr. Barclay.

I approve the intention which you express to procure information respecting all the places of confinement in the colony, and to take steps for securing their frequent visitation and inspection by the justices; but I am desirous to be informed whether there be not in Jamaica, as in other colonies, paid inspectors of prisons. I am of opinion that the endeavours of one paid officer specially charged with the service would probably be more effective than any efforts which might be pressed upon unpaid magistrates whose own views of their duty may not have been such as to secure its performance. If there be no officers specially paid for the inspection of prisons, the duty appears to be one which might properly be committed to the stipendiary magistrates. You have power under the Act of Parliament passed for that purpose, to close any prison which is unfit for the proper reception and treatment of prisoners, and this is a power which necessarily imposes upon you a corresponding responsibility.

I wish further to draw your attention to the allegations of Mr. Gordon that the attendance of the justices at petty sessions is so irregular as to occasion much delay in the administration of justice, and that there are undue difficulties in the way of prisoners obtaining bail. And I desire to caution you against rejecting Mr. Gordon's complaints as unworthy of attention. The representations of a person who has made false and unfounded imputations are to be

regarded no doubt with distrust when resting only upon his personal credit; but when a serious amount of abuse is proved to have existed, and evidence has been suppressed, the information obtained from such a person may be useful as indicating the direction in which inquiry should be made.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.

The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
23 Sept. 1862.
* Page 20.

(No. 496.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 September 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 58,* of the 8th of August, enclosing a letter from Baron Von Ketelhodt in reference to the case of Mr. Gordon.

I have to state that, whilst I blame Baron Von Ketelhodt in common with the other 10 magistrates who concurred in the proceedings respecting the lock-up house, I see no reason to blame him for having taken his seat on the bench.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 3. —

No. 3.

The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
23 Sept. 1862.
* Page 23.

(No. 497.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 23 September 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 63,* of the 21st August, forwarding a further letter from Mr. Gordon on the subject of his removal from the commission of the peace.

You will be pleased to inform Mr. Gordon that I have received this communication.

I have to convey to you my approval of the circular which you caused to be addressed to the custodes of the various parishes with regard to visiting the places of confinement in the parishes.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.

The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
25 Sept. 1862.
* Page 22.

(No. 498.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 25 September 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 59,* of the 9th of August, enclosing a letter from Mr. W. Gordon, of the 7th May, which did not accompany your Despatch, No. 41, of the 8th of July.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 505.)

No. 5.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
13 October 1862.
* Page 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 October 1862.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 80,* of the 8th ultimo, forwarding a letter addressed to me by Mr. March, which contains a memorial to Her Majesty, signed by the chairman of a public meeting held at Morant Bay on the 27th of August.

You will be pleased to inform the memorialists that their memorial has been laid before the Queen; that the subject of it had already been brought by you under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government; that on the 5th ultimo such instructions were issued to you as the nature of the case seemed to require, and that you were directed to communicate a copy of those instructions to the custos of the parish, in order that the justices whose conduct was in question might be made acquainted with them.

With regard to the remonstrance against the dismissal of Mr. Gordon from the commission of the peace, I presume that you will have communicated to that gentleman so much of my Despatch of the 5th ultimo as relates to his conduct, and to his supercession in the commission of the peace.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (signed) *Newcastle*.

— No. 6. —

(No. 511.)

No. 6.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
31 October 1862.
* Page 31.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 31 October 1862.

I HAVE received your Despatch, No. 84,* of the 23d ultimo, covering a report on the public meeting held on the 27th August in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The enclosure contains a series of reflections upon the private characters of the persons who attended the meeting in favour of Mr. Gordon, into the truth or error of which I have no disposition to inquire; and I take this opportunity of observing to you that I feel sure you will find it most conducive to the public interests you have at heart to occupy yourself rather with the substance of acts and proceedings with which you have to deal than with the private characters of the persons who may assail or defend them.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (signed) *Newcastle*.

— No. 7. —

(No. 515.)

No. 7
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
11 Nov. 1862.
* Page 31.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K.G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 11 November 1862.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 88,* of the 9th ultimo, on the subject of the removal of Mr. G. W. Gordon, from the commission of the peace.

I have to express my satisfaction at finding that you had, by Mr. Austin's letter to Mr. Barclay, of the 6th of August, now sent home, expressed your strong disapprobation of the apathy and neglect exhibited by the authorities in whom the management of the lock-up house at Morant Bay is vested.

I have, &c.

Lieutenant Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (signed) *Newcastle*.

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
7 January 1863.

(No. 532.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 January 1863.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 122,* of the 3d of December, enclosing a letter from Mr. Clyne upon the subject of the dismissal of Mr. Gordon from the commission of the peace.

You will be pleased to inform Mr. Clyne that I have received his letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Lieutenant Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

* Page 35.

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
9 January 1863.

(No. 535.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 9 January 1863.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 121,* of the 3d December, forwarding a letter addressed to me by Mr. G. W. Gordon on the subject of his removal from the commission of the peace.

I think that Mr. Gordon is entitled to be made acquainted with the precise grounds on which I proceeded in sanctioning his dismissal from the magistracy; and with this view I have to instruct you to furnish him with a copy of my Despatch, No. 490,† of the 5th of September.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Lieutenant Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

* Page 34.

† Page 37.

JAMAICA.

COPY of the CORRESPONDENCE in relation to the REMOVAL of Mr. G. W. GORDON from the Magistracy in *Jamaica*, and the Circumstances connected with the Morant Bay Lock-up Case.

(*Mr. Thomas Potter.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
5 *March* 1866.

Under 8 *oz.*

JAMAICA

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 26 June 1866;—*for*,

"COPIES of a LETTER from Dr. *Underhill*, dated the 12th day of February 1866, in reply to a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre*, dated the 1st day of January 1866:"

"Of a MEMORIAL of the Missionaries of the Jamaica Baptist Union, dated the 22nd day of March 1866, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies:"

"And, COPY or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of *Jamaica*, respecting the LETTER and MEMORIAL above mentioned."

Colonial Office, 28 June 1866. } W. E. FORSTER.

(*Sir Morton Peto.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*, 29 *June* 1866.

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	From whom.	Number and Date.	Subject.	Page.
1	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.	6 Feb. 1866	Forwarding copy of a Despatch addressed to the Governor of Jamaica respecting the publication in the Colony of Dr. Underhill's Letter of the 5th January 1865.	3
2	E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	12 Feb. 1866	In reply to the above - - - - - -	3
3	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	22 Feb. 1866 No. 84.	Forwarding copies of the above Correspondence -	7
4	The Rev. F. Trestrail to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	23 Feb. 1866	In support of Dr. Underhill's reply to the allegations contained in Governor Eyre's Despatch of the 1st January 1866.	7
5	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	1 March 1866 No. 95.	Enclosing copy of the above Letter and directing that it should be communicated to Governor Eyre.	9
6	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	4 April 1866. No. 81.	Transmitting a Despatch from Governor Eyre in reply to Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, No. 84, of the 22nd February 1866.	9
7	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	10 May 1866 No. 147.	Acknowledging the above Despatch - - - -	13
8	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	23 April 1866 No. 98.	Transmitting Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.	13
9	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	9 May 1866 No. 109.	Transmitting Despatch from Governor Eyre with his Observations on the Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union.	54
10	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	21 June 1866. No. 177.	Acknowledging the above Despatches, Nos. 98 and 109.	58

COPIES of a LETTER from Dr. *Underhill*, dated the 12th day of February, 1866, in reply to a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre*, dated the 1st day of January 1866:—Of a memorial of the Missionaries of the Jamaica Baptist Union, dated the 22nd day of March 1866, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies:—And, COPY or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of *Jamaica*, respecting the LETTER and MEMORIAL above mentioned.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.
6 February 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to *E. B. Underhill*, Esq., LL.D.

Sir, Downing-street, 6 February 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to transmit to you herewith the enclosed copy of a despatch* which he addressed to the Governor of Jamaica, respecting the publication in the Colony of your letter to Mr. Cardwell, of 5th January 1865, together with copy of the answer† which has been received from Governor Eyre on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
E. B. Underhill, LL.D., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
12 February 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from *E. B. Underhill*, LL.D, to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., &c. &c.

2, John-street, Bedford-row, London,
Sir, 12 February 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing a copy of your despatch of the 1st December 1865, No. 348,‡ to Governor Eyre, with his Excellency's answer thereto, dated 1st January 1866, No. 1,§ having reference to the publication in Jamaica of my letter of the 5th January 1865.‖

The reply of Governor Eyre embraces two distinct subjects: first the publication of my letter in Jamaica; and, second, the circumstances under which the letter became the cause of political agitation. On each of these topics I beg permission to make some observations:

1. While I most readily accept and believe his Excellency's assertion that my letter was not published in Jamaica with his sanction or knowledge, it is due to myself to say that, until its appearance in the "Times" newspaper of the 20th November last, the letter had not, with my sanction, been published either in this

* No. 348, of 1 December 1865, *vide* Papers presented Feb. 1866; Disturbances, Part I., p. 243.
† No. 1, of 1 January 1866, *vide* Papers presented Feb. 1866; Disturbances, Part III., p. 3.
‡ *Vide* Papers presented; Disturbances, Part I., page 243.
§ *Vide* Papers presented; Disturbances, Part III., page 3.
‖ *Vide* Papers presented on Affairs of Jamaica, February 1866, page 1.

this country or in Jamaica. In Jamaica it was known to my friends and correspondents solely through the circular of Governor Eyre, or from newspapers to which that circular had been communicated.

2. Governor Eyre further corrects a statement of mine in the "Times" newspaper, that the letter was published in the "Island Gazette." In saying this I was misled by a private letter, and on discovering the error I was careful not to repeat the statement in the prefatory remarks of the pamphlet I afterwards published.

3. For the notoriety the letter acquired in Jamaica His Excellency accounts by saying that "considering the number of persons to whom Dr. Underhill's letter was made known, the majority of whom are in no way under the control of the Government, it is not surprising that the letter soon found its way into the public prints."

4. From the papers on the affairs of Jamaica just laid before Parliament, it appears that the Governor issued his circular to the custodes on the 13th March. A few days after there appeared in the "Jamaica Guardian," not only copies of your despatch and my letter, but a copy of one of the circulars issued to the custodes. It is, therefore, certain that although his Excellency did not publish the letter, it was forwarded to a newspaper by a custos (un-named) to whom this circular had been addressed, and who, as a custos of the island, was under his Excellency's control.

5. The Governor further says, that the publication "unavoidably resulted from Dr. Underhill having written such a letter officially to the Secretary of State, and the steps which it became necessary to take to test the accuracy of his allegations or otherwise." It is sufficient to say, in reply, that whether I wrote the letter officially or as a private persor, his Excellency adopted no precautions whatever to prevent its publication, and that the steps he took to test the accuracy of its allegations were those deemed necessary by himself, and taken on his own responsibility.

6. The second portion of Governor Eyre's despatch requires a more prolonged examination. His Excellency first affirms that the letter became the cause of political agitation, from the desire of the Baptists to back up its statements as far as they could, and this desire was enhanced and stimulated because it soon became evident that the veracity of its assertions was impugned by the public press, by many persons of position and influence, and by some of the Baptists themselves.

7. Admitting that the parties referred to did impugn the accuracy of the statements of the letter (with the exception that only one Baptist minister did so, for reasons it is unnecessary to give), whether the motives attributed by his Excellency to the Baptist ministers really actuated them, will best be decided by the instances Governor Eyre proceeds to offer in proof. "Public meetings," he continues, "were got up in many parishes, mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting or professing to act in connection with them; and Baptist ministers in many instances took a prominent part at such meetings, addressing the mob, and joining in resolutions, adopting entirely, and vouching for the correctness of Dr. Underhill's allegations."

8. It is not necessary that I should vindicate the constitutional right of Baptist ministers, in common with all others of their fellow subjects, to meet in public assembly to discuss political affairs, and to lay before our Gracious Sovereign the grievances under which they conceive themselves to suffer. That Governor Eyre should speak of these assemblies, presided over, in some instances, by the chief magistrate of the district, and consisting of all classes of the community, as a "mob," appears to me most unseemly in a representative of the Crown, and especially so when it is remembered that in nearly every instance resolutions of loyalty to the Sovereign were unanimously adopted, and the proceedings of the meetings were directed to be sent to Her Majesty, through the regular official channels.

9. But that Baptist ministers were particularly active in getting up the public meetings in question, is an allegation which I must venture to contradict. As if in anticipation of such a statement, I have been furnished by Rev. D. J. East, President

President of the Calabar Institution, with the following facts, in a letter dated 16th November 1865. He writes as follows:

"Public meetings to consider your letter have hardly, in a single instance, been called by Baptist missionaries. In the parish of Trelawny, in which there are seven Baptist ministers, with nearly 4,000 church members, no meeting whatever was convened, except a small one by a pastor with his own people. In St. Ann's, in which there are six Baptist ministers, and upwards of 3,500 members, a public meeting was convened, but Baptist ministers unanimously refused to take part in it, and were never consulted, and did not sign the requisition in accordance with which the custos called it. Nor had Baptist ministers any hand whatever in the memorial from St. Ann's, to which Mr. Cardwell replied in the famous despatch, headed 'The Queen's Advice.' At Lucea, the pastor of the Baptist Church was in England, and no Baptist minister whatever had anything to do in getting up the meeting held there. At Spanish Town the meeting was held independently of Baptist missionaries, nor did any Baptist missionary take part in it. At the Kingston meeting, only one Baptist minister was present, and he was not a European. No Baptist minister took part in the meeting held at Vere. At the Savanna-la-Mar and Port Maria meetings, there was a Baptist minister at each. The meeting at Montego Bay was convened, not by Baptist missionaries, but by a parish requisition, numerously signed by all classes; and it was addressed by a member of the Assembly, who read a letter expressive of the views of two of the most estimable and wealthy planters of Trelawny. Out of the 21 parishes in which regular Baptish missionaries labour, only in 11 have public meetings been held; and out of 36 recognised Baptist ministers, only seven Europeans and four natives have taken any part whatever. At the same time, it is a fact that the class of meetings referred to have been attended and participated in, and in most cases addressed by three clergymen of the Church of England, two Wesleyan ministers, three Presbyterian ministers, and one Secession Methodist minister."

10. As a further proof in how very small a degree either Baptist ministers or individuals connected with them have had a share in the recent events, I may adduce the following facts supplied by Rev. J. M. Phillippo, of Spanish Town, one of the oldest missionaries and residents in the island. With great pains he has collected a list of more than 70 persons arrested during the prevalence of martial law, as suspected of complicity with the riot at Morant Bay; giving their names, their callings, the charges made against them, and their religious profession. The result is as follows: "There were arrested three Baptists, natives, connected with the Baptist ministers of the island, two of whom were immediately released as having not the remotest connection with the riot; three native Baptists, three Jews, one native Wesleyan, one United Methodist, one Independent, one member of the Scotch Kirk, 26 members of the Church of England, 30 and upwards Roman Catholics. It thus appears that in proportion to their numbers, the Baptist ministers and their people have had the least to do with recent events, and that the singling them out by Governor Eyre, for special reproach, is utterly unjust.

11. His Excellency, in the second place, proceeds to say that "one of the great objects for which the Baptists, in common with other Dissenting bodies, are striving, is the abolition of any State Church, and it suited their views and purposes to expatiate on the text put forward by Dr. Underhill, that the people were unjustly taxed."

12. It is no new thing that Baptists should express themselves as opposed to the existence of a State Church. For nearly 300 years their protest has been recorded against a system that they deem injurious to religion, and contrary to the commands of Christ. Nor, on suitable occasions, have they, in this respect, been unfaithful to their convictions, since they have laboured for the elevation and religious instruction of the people of Jamaica. Let this be said to their honour, that they have taxed no dissident for the maintenance of the institutions they have established. If they have done aught for the benefit of their fellow men in Jamaica, it has been done from their own spontaneous liberality; but the insinuation of Governor Eyre is peculiarly unjust, as applicable to the present occasion. I have carefully gone over the resolutions of all the public meetings,

11 in number, in my possession, and in one only is there the slightest allusion to the oppressive taxation entailed by the payment of the clergy of the Established Church out of the annual revenue of the island.

13. But if the Baptist ministers, and the movers of the resolutions of these public meetings, had insisted on the burdensomeness and injustice of the Established Church in Jamaica, they would only have echoed the words of Governor Eyre himself. In a despatch, written on the 20th of June last, when these meetings were being held, his Excellency thus speaks: "In the case of the Established Church there can be no question but that the cost of this establishment is large in proportion to the revenue, or to the more general expenditure. It is also at variance with the principles or system which prevail in the more recently formed Colonies."

This is his Excellency's approving comment on an opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Ker, enclosed in the despatch, that "the present ecclesiastical establishment is out of all proportion to the actual resources of the Colony, and to the other subjects of expenditure; I think a reduction should take place at the first opportunity." Permit me to express my hope that in the new arrangements about to be made for the Government of the island, this recommendation will be carried out by Her Majesty's Government.

14. In the third place, Governor Eyre states that the letter became the cause of political agitation by its statements inducing an easily excitable people to believe that the grievances set forth were real, whereas they were purely imaginary, and so being "stirred up into the belief of imaginary wrongs and grievances, they began to think how they could redress or revenge them." To refute this statement would be to enter on the wide question of the condition of the people, and into a consideration of the working of the laws and institutions of the island. It is enough here to say that the grievances set out in the letter were not then stated for the first time, and it is an incredible thing that an entire community should be stirred to its depths by a calm statement of facts, such as the letter contains, if there were not existing many real causes of complaint. Governor Eyre forgets to state, that previous to the publication of the letter, his administration had excited intense political agitation in the island. In a despatch in the Parliamentary Papers, dated 8th February 1865, he himself alludes to the ferment that had existed, and which had scarcely time to subside, previous to the Session of the Legislature in November 1864.

He cannot surely forget the irritation that his conduct in the tramroad affair created, both in the Assembly and the minds of the people. If great excitement followed the publication of the letter, it was because misgovernment, neglect of the interests of the emancipated people, indifference to their welfare on the part of the ruling classes, with the extravagance and corruption of the Legislature, had sown everywhere the seeds of discontent; had destroyed all confidence among the governed in the wisdom, justice, and goodwill of their rulers, and had divided the entire community into hostile sections.

15. But for the real existence of these evils, the "discontented political agitators," to whom his Excellency finally alludes, would have found no means by which "to create dissension and to stir up animosities against the authorities." That it should be necessary to abolish the constitution of Jamaica, and to reconstruct the Administration entirely anew, is abundant proof that wise and just government had not been secured. The surrender of its powers and privileges to the Crown by the Jamaica Legislature, speaks volumes as to its incapacity, and its want of success in accomplishing the objects of its existence. It has grossly failed, either to secure prosperity for the interests it has especially tried to serve, or to raise the peasantry from the degradation in which slavery had left them. "There can be no certain, no consistent, no satisfactory legislation," says his Excellency, in his Despatch of 19th April, "where personal feelings and private considerations are so constantly allowed to take the place of a sense of public duty, and a desire to promote the public good."

Because the Legislature of Jamaica has permitted selfish and class objects to blind it to its duty, it perishes without a word of regret even from its own members. All classes are jubilant over its tomb. By its own act it pleads guilty to the charges of incompetence, misgovernment, and venality that have been

been brought against it. Its proceedings have long been a grievance of the greatest magnitude: and by accepting the sacrifice of its right to exist, Governor Eyre himself establishes the fact that the grievances of the people were real and not imaginary, as, with a strange inconsistency, he affirms.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edw. B. Underhill.*

(No. 84.)

— No. 3. —

No. 3.
The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.
22 February 1866.

Colonial Office to Dr. Underhill, 6 Feb. page 3.
Dr. Underhill, 12 Feb., page 3.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

Sir, Downing street, 22 February 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith the copy of a letter, in which I communicated to Dr. Underhill Governor Eyre's Despatch,* No. 1 of 1st January, respecting the publication in Jamaica of his letter to me of 5th January 1865, together with a copy of Dr. Underhill's answer.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Rev. F. Trestrail to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
23 February 1866.

Copy of a LETTER from the Rev. *F. Trestrail*, to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

Baptist Mission, 2 John street, Bedford-row,
Sir, 23 February 1866.

My colleague, Dr. Underhill, has submitted to me his reply to the allegations contained in Governor Eyre's Despatch, dated 1st January 1866,* with a copy you kindly furnished him. I should not have presumed to trouble you with any addition to his statements, but that certain facts, communicated to me in July 1864 by some of our missionaries in Jamaica were not adverted to by him; and which facts, it seems to me, ought to be made known to you, because they set forth the opinion which Governor Eyre then entertained of the gentlemen whom he now, and as I believe undeservedly, so strongly condemns.

In paragraph No. 9 Governor Eyre writes thus:

"Public meetings were got up in many parishes, mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting, or professing to act, in connection with them, and Baptist ministers in many instances took a prominent part at such meetings, addressing the mob, and joining in resolutions adopting entirely, and vouching for the correctness of Dr. Underhill's allegations; whilst, by many speeches at some of these meetings, the Government authorities, the custodes, the magistracy, the planters and others were denounced in the most unmeasured terms. I have already, in previous despatches, pointed out occasions in which Baptist ministers have taken part in those meetings, and the evil results likely to flow therefrom."

Permit me to lay before you a very different description of the conduct and character of Baptist ministers in Jamaica, and drawn chiefly by the same hand.

On the 17th February 1864, a meeting of ministers and delegates of Baptist churches, representing 50,000 persons, was held at Montego Bay, attended, it is said by competent judges, by 10,000 persons. Among other business transacted at this meeting was the adoption of an address to Governor Eyre, expressing in strong terms their approval of his publicly avowed determination to employ no one in the Government service who could not produce satisfactory testimonials of good moral conduct. From that address the following is an extract:

"We should be wanting in a proper discharge of our duty to God, to ourselves, to the thousands of our congregations, and to the religious public in general, did we fail to record our most cordial approval of your Excellency's late official notice requiring as essential, from all candidates for office under Government, the possession of moral as well as other qualifications; and stating, as a discouragement of immorality, the disadvantages that would result to individuals of disreputable character already in office, in relation to their future position and emolument, by their continued indulgence in vicious practices andhabits."

The

* *Vide* Papers presented; "Disturbances," Part III., page 3.

The address was presented to his Excellency, who received it with great satisfaction; and I now submit for your consideration a part of his answer to it:

"It is the duty of every Governor to do all in his power to discountenance vice and immorality; and in no way can he do this more effectually than by regarding such conduct as disqualifying for appointments to and promotion in the public service.

"I thank you for this spontaneous expression of your approval and sympathy. At the present juncture it is especially encouraging to me to receive such disinterested support.

"I cannot, gentlemen, close my reply, without briefly adverting to the gratifying account which I saw in one of the daily journals, that at your recent meeting at Montego Bay, there could not have been less than 10,000 persons assembled to meet you in celebration of the jubilee, and that yet, to use the words of that journal, not a single police case has resulted from this mammoth and memorable demonstration.

"What a contrast this peaceable and orderly assembly, to celebrate a religious service, presents to days gone by; surely, when the influence of the Christian Missionary is so powerful in the preservation of outward conduct and decorum, we may reasonably hope that it is not without its effect upon the inner man, and that as years pass by, and successive generations follow each other, the failings and vices of the rural population, in a great degree due to the yet unextinguished and degrading influences descended from slavery, may give way before the practice and teaching of Christian ministers, and that our country people may become in after years as honest, as truthful, and as virtuous, as are the peasantry of any other country.

"Persevere, then, gentlemen, in the holy undertaking in which you are engaged, and doubt not that, in his own good time, God will grant an answer to your prayers, and a blessing upon your labours.

"For your kind good wishes towards myself and my family, I return you, on their part and on my own, my grateful acknowledgments; and I humbly share in your prayer, that when our respective labours in this world are terminated, we may all meet in the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ."

As soon as the papers, containing an account of these proceedings, reached me, I published a brief statement of them in our Monthly Herald. It seemed due to his Excellency, and to my ministerial brethren in Jamaica, to make the facts known to the supporters of the mission in this country; in doing so, I added a few comments, and the spirit of these comments will be best seen in the subjoined quotation:

"Viewed in the light of these facts and statements, Governor Eyre comes up to Scriptural representation of a chief magistrate, 'a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them that do well,' and it was right and fitting that Christian ministers, who are so deeply interested in the well being of the people, should rally around their Governor, and support him, to the best of their ability, in his efforts to check the licentiousness of men who have too long disgraced the Government in whose service they have held a place."

It will appear, I think, to every candid mind, a thing incredible that Baptist ministers who acted thus in 1864, and supported his Excellency when he was bitterly assailed by his enemies, should, in 1865, have so far forgotten themselves, and belied the character they had sustained for years, many of them through a long life devoted to the best interests of the people of Jamaica, as to be guilty of public acts so unbecoming and injurious as those with which Governer Eyre now charges them.

In forwarding this communication to you, I have been actuated solely by a desire to vindicate the reputation of Christian ministers whom I have known for years, many of whom are among my most honoured and cherished friends. They have devoted their lives to the noble task of elevating the emancipated peasantry of Jamaica, and the inculcation on their congregations of the principles of the Christian religion, trained in the love and enjoyment of constitutional liberty, they have not failed to enforce obedience to authority and law, and I feel assured that it will, ere long, be made manifest, that both they and the congregations under their charge, are among the most dutiful and loyal subjects of our gracious and beloved Queen.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Fred. Trestrail.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 95.)

No. 5.
The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.
1 March 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M. P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

23rd February 1866, page 7.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the copy of a letter from the Rev. Frederick Trestrail, clerical secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society.

I have to request that you will communicate it to Governor Eyre, with the letter from Dr. Underhill, which formed an enclosure to my Despatch, No. 84,* of 22nd February.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

* Page 7.

— No. 6. —

(No. 81.)

No. 6.
Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
4 April 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

King's House, 4 April 1866.

(Received, 30 April 1866.)
(Answered, No. 147, 10 May 1866, page 13.)

Gov. Eyre to Sir H. K. Storks. No. 12 of 28 March 1866.
28 March 1866.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Governor Eyre to me, giving cover to a despatch from his Excellency addressed to you, in reply to your Despatches, Nos. 84 of the 22nd February, and 95 of the 1st ultimo.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. K. Storks.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

(No. 12.)

Encl. 1, in No. 6.
Mr. Eyre to Right Hon. E. Cardwell.
28 March 1866.

Sir, Flamstead, 28 March 1866.

I SHALL be obliged by your Excellency's transmitting to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the enclosed communication in reply to his Despatches, No. 84, of the 22nd February, No. 95, of the 1st instant, which were forwarded to me by his direction.

I have, &c.
His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B. (signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

Encl. 2, in No. 6.

Sir, Flamstead, 28 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, through Sir H. Storks, in order that I might peruse them, of your Despatches, No. 84, of the 22nd February, and No. 95, of the 1st instant, transmitting correspondence relative to Dr. Underhill's letter, and the proceedings of some of the Baptist missionaries in this colony.

I do not wish to prolong this discussion more than can be avoided, but it is only right I should show that I had good grounds for making the statements I did with regard to the tendency of the allegations contained in Dr. Underhill's letter, and of the action of some of the Baptist missionaries with regard to it.

Dr. Underhill contradicts my assertion that public meetings were got up in many parishes mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting or professing to act in connection with them.

At page 209 of Papers relative to the Affairs of Jamaica, presented to Parliament, February 1866, will be found a copy of resolutions adopted "at public meetings in Clarendon and Manchester, representing 2,000 persons, chiefly of the labouring classes."

These resolutions are signed by W. Claydon, Baptist missionary, chairman, and G. Moodie (also a Baptist minister), secretary.

At page 209 of the same Papers the Honourable F. Lowe, custos of Clarendon, reports of the Clarendon meeting:—

"The meeting appears to have been got up by the Reverend Mr. Claydon (not by requisition to myself as custos, as is usual when public meetings are desired), and was

held in the Baptist chapel at Fourpaths, in which that gentleman officiates; it was attended by between 400 and 500 persons of the labouring classes, but beyond the Reverend Mr. Claydon and two or three clergymen of his persuasion, I could not hear of any person of position or education being present."

With regard to the alleged public meeting in Manchester, at page 221 of the same Papers, the Honourable J. R. Hollingsworth, custos of Manchester, reports, "I have never known of any such meeting as is referred to. There certainly has never been any public meeting at Mandeville to my knowledge." The only possible inference is that the public meeting at Manchester, certified to by two Baptist ministers, was got up exclusively by that denomination.

At page 135 of the same Papers, the Honourable C. Royes, custos of St. Ann, states in reference to the now celebrated "Petition of the Poor People of Jamaica and parish of St. Ann's:"—

"An attentive consideration of the petition leads to the conclusion that it is based upon Dr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Secretary on the distress said to exist among the emancipated population in Jamaica, and if such letter had not been written neither would the petition have appeared."

Dr. Underhill states, "nor had Baptist ministers any hand whatever in the memorial from St. Ann's, to which Mr. Cardwell replied in the famous Despatch, headed 'The Queen's Advice;'" but the Reverend Mr. Millard, Baptist missionary, has recently given evidence before the Royal Commission that he was consulted by some of his people as to the propriety of their signing that document. It is true Mr. Millard's intention was to show that the petition did not originate in Dr. Underhill's letter, and he states that a large number of signatures were attached to it prior to the publication of that letter.

There were only 108 signatures altogether, and across the margin of the paper, opposite the earlier portion of the signatures, was written in the original petition, "Signed in St. Ann's on 28th March."

Dr. Underhill's letter was published in the "Guardian" newspaper on 21st March.

But admitting the correctness of Mr. Millard's statement, a reference to page 7 of the same papers will show that as early as February a circular issued by the Baptist Missionary Society in London, and said to contain statements somewhat similar to those in Dr. Underhill's letter, had been discussed in the public journals of the colony, and controverted by one of the Baptist missionaries, the Rev. S. Oughton.

It may be right here to call attention to the fact that the petition referred to professes to be from the "Poor People of Jamaica" as well as of "St. Ann's," and that consequently the answer was properly made known in every parish.

At page 189 of the same Papers, will be found my Despatch, transmitting resolutions passed at a meeting at Kingston, presided over by G. W. Gordon. Mr. Gordon had been a member of the Church of England, but was re-baptized by the Rev. J. Phillippo, Baptist minister of Spanish Town, and subsequently set up as a preacher himself.

At this meeting (page 190–1), persons designated as Rev. J. Roach, Rev. Edwin Palmer, Rev. J. Crole, took a prominent part, and made seditious speeches. The two former have since been convicted before a civil tribunal of "uttering seditious language." Mr. Palmer is, I understand, recognised as belonging to the Jamaica Baptist Union, the other two are called "Native Baptists." Mr. Gordon was mixed up with, and took a prominent part at meetings in many other parishes.

At page 196 of the same Papers, are given the resolutions adopted at a meeting at Savanna la Mar.

At this meeting the Rev. W. Burke, Baptist minister, and the Rev. J. Hewitt, Baptist minister, took part.

At page 199 of the same Papers, will be found a copy of the resolutions adopted at Montego Bay.

At this meeting the Rev. W. Dendy, the Rev. J. Henderson, the Rev. J. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, all Baptist ministers, took a prominent part.

Dr. Underhill complains that whilst three clergymen of the Church of England, two Wesleyan ministers, three Presbyterian ministers, and one Secession minister, have attended and participated in the class of meetings referred to, the Baptists alone have been singled out for reprehension.

I only remember two instances (though there may have been a third) of clergymen of the Church of England having been present at meetings of this kind: one at St. Mary, where Dr. Moore, the rector, acted as chairman, but recorded at the end of the resolutions that he "dissented entirely from the proceedings;" the other in Hanover, where the Rev. A. Davidson, the rector, signed the memorial adopted. This memorial did not affirm the correctness of Dr. Underhill's statements, and the address of the Rev. A. Davidson was reported to have been on "the duty of humiliation under the Divine hand in the present emergency." I have no means of knowing the tenor of the addresses (if any were made by the Wesleyan, Presbyterian, or Secession Methodist ministers), but I have no reason to suppose they were of a political character, or calculated to create discontent or disaffection amongst the negroes.

It is precisely because the addresses of the Baptist ministers (where they came under my notice) were of this character, and calculated to produce the effect stated, that it became my duty to inform the Secretary of State of the course being taken, and to record my conviction that such ministers "were doing their best not only to make the labourer discontented,

discontented, but to stimulate sedition and resistance to the laws and constituted authority" (*see* page 256 of the same Papers).

At pages 202–3–4 of the same Papers, are recorded the speeches referred to. I would particularly call attention to the following passages:—

The Rev. E. Hewitt—"We want to know why we are called upon to pay 50,000 *l.* to support the Established Church."

* * * * *

"Why do they ask you and me to pay for the building of their churches, for their wine, their organ and surplices? I won't say a word of their doctrine."

"We are taxed enormously for immigration purposes; all of you have to pay for it."

* * * * *

"I again say it is we who have to pay the debt: 18,500 immigrants have been brought to Jamaica, and what good has this done the country? It is you, the labourers, who ought to work, and then you will prosper."

The Rev. J. Reid—"The Assembly did not study the interests of the people, but squandered away their money."

The Rev. J. Henderson—"The object of the meeting is to take into consideration Dr. Underhill's letter."

* * * * *

"Part of the large debt was borrowed to bring immigrants. Have they done any good? (Voices—No, no.) Do they pay taxes? (Voices—No, no.) The natives, who are the labouring population, are driven away from the estates, and coolies taken in their stead."

* * * * *

"Why should it not also be said that we can't afford to pay 45,000 *l.* a year for keeping up the Established Church? I say we cannot, and will not continue to pay it."

* * * * *

"A great reduction in taxation may be made, and must be made."

The Rev. W. Dendy—"The people of the island are very heavily taxed. Why do they come to market with small baskets on their heads? If there was not such a heavy tax upon carts they would be more used, which would be a great saving of labour and time, and be the means of giving employment to carpenters and smiths in building them.

"What do we know of the laws that are made, and the grants by such laws in the Assembly, until they call upon us, by taxation, to pay them."

If these are the doctrines broached in public by recognised ministers of the Baptist Mission, what may not their more private teachings be, especially when taken in connection with the fact that not long afterwards these same ministers declined to circulate amongst or make known to the peasantry the Secretary of State's Despatch, containing the "Queen's Advice," emanating direct from the Throne.

Dr. Underhill states he has carefully gone over the resolutions of all the public meetings, 11 in number, in his possession, and in only one (St. Thomas-in-the-East, I presume) is there the slightest allusion to the offensive taxation entailed by the payment of the clergy of the Established Church out of the annual revenue of the island.

It is only necessary to remark that the resolutions adopted are no indications of the speeches made, or of the doctrine taught at the meetings. The extracts already quoted from the addresses of the Rev. E. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, the Rev. J. Henderson, and the Rev. W. Dendy, sufficiently illustrate this; and the recent conviction of the Rev. E. Palmer, the Rev. J. Crole, E. Goldson and T. Harry (before a civil tribunal), of uttering seditious language at these meetings, still further proves how little the resolutions show the nature of what takes place at them.

I need scarcely point out that Dr. Underhill has an extraordinary view of analogy when he infers that such doctrines as those of the Rev. E. Hewitt and the Rev. J. Henderson, addressed at a public meeting to an ignorant and excitable populace, are but echoes of the words used by me (in a despatch) to the Secretary of State, when I remarked that, "In the case of the Established Church, there can be no question but that the cost of this establishment is large in proportion to the revenue, or to the more general expenditure. It is also at variance with the principles or system which prevail in the more recently formed colonies." Moreover, Dr. Underhill omits to continue the quotation: "But it has been a fundamental part of the colonial system in the West Indies, little felt in the days of their prosperity, while to withdraw it now, or greatly reduce it, would be to withdraw the means of religious teaching from a large mass of the people."

From this it follows that the Baptists, and all other Dissenters, came to Jamaica with a full knowledge that it was a country in which a State church was by law established and provided for.

Dr. Underhill ridicules the idea of a people being stirred up into a belief of grievances unless they had real existence.

Let Mr. Samuel Holt (a black man and a local preacher of St. Elizabeth) answer Dr. Underhill. At the meeting at Montego Bay (*see* page 204 of the same Papers) it is reported that Mr. Holt said:—

"We all feel the hardship of the times, but did not know the cause of it. Sometimes we go to bed, and in the night we hear a rumbling, but we turn ourselves and do not know what the rumbling is. In the morning one man meets another, and he asks did you feel the earthquake last night? then we know what was the rumbling. Just so we all felt the hardship of the times, but did not know what was the cause. We did not know what the rumbling was until every one ask, have you read Dr. Underhill's letter? then we know what all the disturbance was, and the rumbling that bring us here to-day."

Then comes the practical application by the black man, of the teaching inculcated by the previous speakers (the Rev. E. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, the Rev. J. Henderson, and the Rev. W. Dendy). Mr. Holt continues: "We are poor. Have we got the same property, the same quantity of clothing and money, as we had in times past? A reduction in taxation must take place. We shall have it made. We won't submit to be crushed down any longer. My friends, read the Acts of the Apostles. When the ship was in danger of being wrecked, did the vessel keep the heavy load in her till she went down to the bottom? No, they threw over some of the heavy load, and though the ship was lost those men who took wise counsel got safe to land. On the same principle, why should we wait until all is lost? Why not throw overboard the weight of taxation, and save those who could be saved? Why should we wait until all are entirely crushed, and do nothing before we cry out lost, lost?"

Dr. Underhill further remarks: "Governor Eyre forgets to state that, previous to the publication of his letter, his administration had excited intense political agitation in the island;" and again, "he cannot surely forget the irritation that his conduct in the tramroad affair created, both in the Assembly and in the minds of the people."

I need scarcely reply to these inuendoes further than by referring to the Correspondence on Party Government, laid before Parliament, in return to the Addresses of the House of Lords, 1865.

These Papers will show how little Dr. Underhill is acquainted with the subject upon which he so confidently expresses his opinion; that the political agitation to which he refers was confined to the members of the Legislature, or their immediate adherents; and that the people, as a body, scarcely knew there was a tramroad, and certainly took no interest in the question, either one way or the other. Whenever the subject has been in any way brought forward it will be found that some political partisan, from one or other branch of the Legislature, and not the people, has been the originator of the movement.

In reply to the Rev. F. Trestrail's communication it will be sufficient to state that the information therein given was communicated by myself to the Secretary of State at the time the address referred to was presented. It was again subsequently forwarded, with a memorial from Messrs. Henderson, Dendy, and Reid, in August 1865.

That I am not the only Governor who has unfortunately been compelled to change his opinion, with regard to the conduct of some of the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, will be evidenced by the following extract from a despatch from Governor Sir Charles Metcalfe to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 15th June 1840:—

"I entirely renounce the opinion which I at one time entertained that they (the Baptists) had done more good than harm. The good that they have done would have been done without them. The evil is exclusively their own."

Having felt it necessary, in my own justification, to bring these circumstances under your notice, I wish to state also, in justice to a large number of Baptist missionaries labouring in this Colony, that I believe them to be able, zealous, and earnest men, endeavouring to discharge their duty faithfully, and desirous to promote harmony and good-will amongst all classes.

I wish also to state that many of the persons called Baptist ministers are black men, unconnected with the Baptist Missionary Society, and generally persons of immoral lives, who are equally unfit either to guide themselves, or to teach others. These men commonly called "Native Baptists" are a curse to the country.

I will only add, in conclusion, my sincere hope that the Baptist Missionary Society in England (which might and ought to be so largely instrumental in benefiting the Colony) will see the necessity of instructing their missionaries to abstain, for the future, from mixing themselves up in politics or in questions between the employer of labour and the labourers.

Such interference can only destroy their influence and usefulness as Christian ministers, and may lead to very serious and fatal results to the Colony at large.

I have, &c.

The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *E. Eyre.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 147.)

No. 7

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. 10 May 1866. * Page 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

Sir, Downing-street, 10 May 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 81,* of the 4th April, enclosing one from Governor Eyre, in answer to my Despatches, No. 84, of the 22d February, and No. 95, of 1st March.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

— No. 8. —

(No. 98.)

No. 8.

Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. 23 April 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

King's House, 23 April 1866.
(Received, 14 May 1866.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 177, 21 June 1866, page 58.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union.

I have referred the duplicate copy to Mr. Eyre for any observations on it which he may have to offer.

I shall transmit to you Mr. Eyre's reply by the next mail.

As this memorial was only presented to me for transmission on the 21st instant, there was not time to refer it to Mr. Eyre and obtain his observations on it before the sailing of the present mail, and as the memorialists were anxious that you should receive their statement without delay, I lose no time in forwarding it to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. K. Storks.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To the Right Honourable *E. Cardwell*, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Humble Memorial of the Missionaries and Ministers of "The Jamaica Baptist Union," assembled in Session in Spanish Town, on Thursday, 22 March 1866, and following days:

Sheweth,

THAT your Memorialists are aggrieved at certain charges made either against them, as a body, or against individual missionaries connected with them.

Some few of your memorialists have addressed the Honourable the Secretary of State on a former occasion, but they now desire, in their collective capacity, to represent the grievances of which they have to complain in the treatment they have experienced from his Excellency, Governor Eyre, during the past year, 1865.

Your Memorialists are charged, 1. In connection with the outbreak at Morant Bay, with being parties to certain "nefarious proceedings." (*See* Appendix A., No. 1.)

2. With neglect of duty, as ministers of the Gospel, in not giving suitable advice to their congregations. (Appendix A., No. 2.)

3. With disloyalty to their sovereign. (Appendix A., No. 3.)

4. With being dangerous characters, who tend to stir up sedition and rebellion, and who ought to be deported from the island. (Appendix A., No. 4.)

5. With being the principal movers of what have been called "the Underhill Meetings," at which the authorities are said to have been denounced in the most unmeasured terms. (Appendix A., No. 5.)

6. With keeping up an agitation against payments to the State church. (*See* Appendix A., No. 6.)

Your memorialists have also to complain:—

1. That the correspondence of some of them was intercepted at the post office by order of the Governor. (Appendix A., No. 7.)

2. That groundless rumours and newspaper paragraphs, prejudicial to your memorialists, were forwarded to the Colonial Office by his Excellency, without inquiry of the parties informed against, and without giving to those whom they implicated the opportunity of explanation or refutation. (Appendix A., No. 8).

Your memorialists hailed with satisfaction the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the late disturbances, among other reasons, because they hoped that opportunity would have been afforded to vindicate their characters from what they conceive to be unjust aspersions, before the Commissioners graciously appointed by Her Majesty. This opportunity has not, however, been afforded them, as the following statements will show. While the Commissioners have treated your memorialists with consideration and courtesy, they have adjudged that these questions do not come within the limits of the inquiry which they have been appointed to prosecute.

Your memorialists, from the opening of the Commission, have not failed to present themselves before the Commissioners by counsel and solicitor, as also on the part of several of them in person. In evidence of the course taken by themselves on the one hand, and by the Commissioners on the other, they refer to the documents included in the Appendix. The Royal Commissioners having declined to consider the grievances of which your memorialists complain, they are left to seek redress at the hands of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and are sure that it will not be withheld. (Appendix B. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.)

In refutation of the charges alleged against them, and in support of the complaints they have had to make, your memorialists crave permission to offer the following observations:—

1. As to the charge of disloyalty to their Sovereign, or of being in any way parties to "nefarious proceedings" connected with the outbreak at Morant Bay, or of being dangerous characters who tend to stir up sedition and rebellion, your memorialists have not only to express their astonishment that the allegations should have been made against them, but venture, with all respect to authority, to give them the most unqualified denial. In support of this denial, we may refer to the testimonials which at different times your memorialists have had from successive Governors of this colony, and other gentlemen of distinguished character and position. They may refer, especially, to Earl Mulgrave, the Marquis of Sligo, Sir Lionel Smith, Sir Henry Barkly, and to Governor Eyre himself; and also to Joseph Sturge, and to Joseph John Gurney, Esquires. (Appendix C., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.)

Your memorialists may also refer to the fact, that the scene of their labours is for the most part remote from the disturbed districts, and that where their churches and ministers are most numerous and influential, there peace and order have prevailed. In the county of Cornwall there are 16 Baptist ministers, 29 churches, and 9,969 members. In the county of Middlesex there are 16 ministers, 38 churches, and 10,042 members. Whereas in the county of Surrey there are only seven ministers, 15 churches, and 2,114 members. Or, taking individual parishes, in St. James, we have six ministers, six churches, and 2,975 members; in Trelawney, six ministers, 10 churches, and 3,501 members; in St. Ann, six ministers, 11 churches, and 3,744 members. In these districts tranquillity has prevailed; but in St. Thomas-in-the-East, your memorialists have only 286 church members, and only one minister; and that, during the disturbances, he and his family had to place themselves under the protection of the authorities. (Appendix D.)

Your memorialists also beg to state, that in the recent political trials there was only one of their ministers, and not a single member of their churches, indicted by the Crown officers. And in regard to that one minister, while your memorialists intrude no judgment of the trial here, they venture to think that no British jury would have given a verdict for the prosecution on the evidence advanced.

That any Governor of this Colony should have ventured to suggest to Her Majesty's Government the deportation from the island of any of their number as dangerous characters your memorialists regard as a cruel imputation against the lives of men, who, some of them for nearly 40 years, have served, as the fruits of their labours will testify, the most valuable purposes in the cause of social peace and order, to say nothing of the higher and more spiritual objects of their mission.

Your memorialists venture to submit a tabular statement (*see* Appendix E., Nos. 1 and 2), exhibiting a list of the more respectable persons arrested during martial law out of the districts under martial law, from which it will be seen, that of these 25 were members of the Church of England, one native Wesleyan, one Methodist, United Church, one Independent, three Jews, three native Baptists, 25 Roman Catholics, and three Baptists connected with the Baptist Missionary Society.

Your memorialists may also state, that one-half of their number are natives of Great Britain, and from their infancy have been educated in sentiments of warmest attachment to the British Throne and Government; that the other half being natives of this island have been trained in connection with them, the most of them having been educated in their Theological Institution at Calabar; that some of them have families settled in the country in occupation of respectable and responsible positions; and that, as a body, they are either the trustees or holders of mission property to the value of more than 100,000 *l.*; that they have, therefore, an interest in the country incompatible with the charges alleged.

Your

Your memorialists may further confidently appeal to their regular ministration, in which they have ever been accustomed to inculcate the duty of submission to the Powers that be, obedience to the laws, and payment of taxes, as well as to pray for Kings and for all that are in authority; that they may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all Godliness and honesty. And in evidence of this they challenge the testimony of the general public, to whom the doors of their places of worship are always open.

2. As to the teachings of your memorialists on social duties, they venture to affirm that the entire history of their mission is a direct contradiction of charges or innuendoes which have been alleged against them. They have ever aimed to stimulate the industry of their people; and, dependent as they have been upon them for support, have had as an additional motive to do so, the identity of the material interests of their people as their own. Occasionally they have given more formal explanation to their sentiments on such subjects at public meetings held for the express purpose of promoting such objects (*see* Appendix F., No. 1). They may also appeal to published documents, from which the character and tendency of their instructions on this subject may be seen (*see* Appendix F., No. 2).

3. As to the charge against your memorialists, or some of their number, of attending what have been called "Underhill Meetings," and of endorsing at them the statements of Dr. Underhill, the Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies, will permit them to say, that the extent to which they have endorsed the statements of Dr. Underhill's letter is set forth in reply to the printed circular, including a printed copy of it from his Excellency, Governor Eyre. In Mr. Eyre's Despatch, No. 128, paragraph 3, his Excellency states, "From the Baptist Society the report now transmitted is a very carefully and ably got up paper, and contains much interesting and valuable information"; and at paragraph 6, "As a whole, the report is a very fair and candid one, and will convey to Her Majesty's Government much important and useful information, though there are, of course, many statements, opinions, and inferences in which I am unable to coincide." How, after writing this Despatch, his Excellency should have pronounced the endorsement on the part of any of your memorialists of Dr. Underhill's statements as "nefarious," or how he should have treated such endorsements as seditious, your memorialists are at a loss to understand.

As to the part taken by any of your memorialists in "Underhill Meetings": In the first place, they deny the statements of Governor Eyre, that such meetings were got up mostly through the agency of Baptist missionaries, and, with all submission, they challenge inquiry and proof. There are 41 ministers in connection with their body, and of these there are 15 Europeans and 16 native ministers—in all 31—who took no part in these meetings at all. While it will be seen that in common with those Baptist ministers who did take part in these meetings, there were two clergymen of the Church of England, one Wesleyan minister in full standing, and one Catechist, one Wesleyan minister formerly recognised, one secession Methodist minister, and three ministers of the United Presbyterian Body. (Appendix G., No. 1.)

It may be also stated, that of the "Underhill Meetings," known by report to your memorialists, one was convened by the mayor of Kingston, one by the senior magistrate of Spanish Town, and six by the custodes of parishes; only one having been called on the responsibility of a Baptist minister, and that in his own chapel. (Appendix G., No. 2.)

4. As to the charge of keeping up an agitation against payments to the State Church, your memorialists beg permission to say that they and their people, by general acknowledgment the largest religious community in the island, are Protestant Dissenters, and claim the right on all fitting occasions to give utterance to their distinctive views; but they challenge inquiry and proof that they ever at any time have done so, other than in a lawful and constitutional way, or that they ever did so in a manner calculated to disturb the peace of the community.

5. That the correspondence of any of your memorialists should have been intercepted at the post office by order of the Governor they regard as a serious grievance, reflecting upon them a groundless and unjust suspicion of complicity with crimes from which they revolt, and of which their whole lives and relations give assurance they are incapable. This unconstitutional act of the Government, they are aware has been their vindication, showing how unfounded and unworthy the suspicion against them was, but they feel that they have a right to claim an acknowledgment of the injustice with which they were treated.

6. Your memorialists venture further to submit a statement in regard to the rumours and newspaper reports forwarded to Her Majesty's Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies, prejudicial to their characters, without inquiry from them. A copy of the "County Union" was sent by Governor Eyre, purporting to contain a report of a public meeting held at Montego Bay ("Affairs of Jamaica," Despatch No. 137; Enclosure 2, in No. 29). Of newspaper statements generally your memorialists may quote the words of Mr. Eyre himself: "In colonial communities fabrications and exaggerations of the grossest character are constantly being circulated either from sheer wantonness, from a desire to appear important in the eyes of those to whom the statement are made, or from worse motives. These *canards* are very generally circulated by the local press, and often obtain currency and credence at a distance" ("Disturbance in Jamaica," Despatch, No. 334). To show how little reliance can be placed on newspaper reports of spoken addresses, your memorialists place alongside the report of the "County Union" that of another newspaper called "Lyons Paper," published in the same town, which, it will be seen, is essentially different.

And at the same time it must be stated that those of your memorialists who attended the meeting repudiate the report of their speeches in both, as being inaccurate and misleading, (Appendix H.).

In regard to the rumour forwarded by Mr. Hart to Governor Eyre, and sent by him, without inquiry, to the Colonial Office, in which one of your memorialists, the Rev. Edward Hewett, is represented as intending to preside at a monster meeting, &c., &c., your memorialists have to state that it is untrue, the simple fact being that Mr. Hewett, in common with other neighbouring ministers, had announced his intention to hold the annual missionary meeting in connection with his congregations usually held at the season at which it was announced to take place. These meetings, however, were immediately postponed on an intimation having been given that some gentlemen of the district, magistrates, thought it advisable to do so.

In regard to the reports forwarded to the Colonial Office by Governor Eyre, respecting the Reverend William Claydon, also without previous enquiry, your memorialists have to say—1. That Mr. Hollingsworth, custos of Manchester, was entirely misled, that his information was wholly false; that no such language as that imputed to Mr. Claydon was ever uttered by him; and further, that no meeting was held at Jubilee Chapel at the time alleged by Mr. Hollingsworth's informant. 2. That while on the mission premises at Porus, an outbuilding was let by Mr. Claydon as a store, it was with the express understanding that spirits of any kind should not be sold on the premises, and that as soon as it was ascertained that this agreement was violated the persons in occupation had notice served upon them to quit. That any conduct as that referred to in the Enclosure of Mr. Eyre's Despatch, is altogether beyond Mr. Claydon's knowledge, nor can he be held in any way responsible for it, having no connection with the parties in question.

Your memorialists are sorry to trouble Her Majesty's Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies with these personal details, but the characters of some of their number have been attacked by Governor Eyre, and unfounded rumours and reports having been transmitted by him to Her Majesty's Government, and published among papers laid before the Imperial Parliament, they are laid under the necessity of doing so to vindicate themselves from unmerited reproach.

Your memorialists, honoured sir, having in vain courted investigation, and sought redress from the Royal Commissioners, now confidently leave their case in the hands of Her Majesty's Government, and hold themselves prepared to meet the most searching enquiry. They will only add, that having been impeached before the British public by one of Her Majesty's Colonial Governors, they strongly urge their claim to receive that public and unqualified vindication to which they feel themselves entitled, and for which they pray.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

(signed) *James M. Phillippo*, Spanish Town, St. Catherine.
Walter Dendy, Salter's Hill, St. James.
(And 25 other signatures.)

Appendix A.

No. 1.

In a Despatch from Governor Eyre to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, dated 20 October 1865, paragraph 64, are the following words:

"The parties who have more immediately taken part in these nefarious proceedings are, ... fifthly, a few Baptist missionaries, who like Messrs. Henderson, Reid, Dendy, Hewitt, and Maxwell, endorse at public meetings, or otherwise, all the untruthful statements or innuendoes propagated in Dr. Underhill's letter."

See Blue Book, "Disturbances in Jamaica," Part I., page 7. 1866.

No. 2.

Extract of Letter from the Hon. *E. Jordon*, by order of Governor *Eyre*, to the Rev. *J. E. Henderson*, the Rev. *Walter Dendy*, and the Rev. *J. Reid.*

"I am further to state that if such advice had been more frequently given before by those who undertake to guide and teach the people, their condition at the present moment would possibly have been much better than it is, and the advice less needed now."

"Affairs of Jamaica;" Despatch No. 210; Enclosure 3, in No. 64.

No. 3.

Extract of Letter from Mr. *Jordon*.

"I am commanded to request you will be so good as to hand over to the custos of St. James the circulars which you decline to circulate, containing the advice of your Sovereign."

"Affairs of Jamaica." Despatch No. 210. Enclosure 3, in No. 64.

Extract from Governor *Eyre* to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"Baptist ministers . . . who treated the Queen's advice in so disloyal and unbecoming a manner."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part II. Despatch No. 332.

No. 4.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"It will be necessary to pass a law in the Colony authorizing the deportation of all persons who, leaving their proper sphere of action as ministers of religion, become political demagogues and dangerous agitators."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 253.

No. 5.

In a Despatch, dated 23d October 1865, from Governor Eyre to the Colonial Office, it is said:

"In dealing with the rebellion recently broken out, and still existing in Jamaica, it became manifest that the movement had been long in progress, that it had been stirred up and stimulated by the indiscreet acts, language, or writings of persons of education, and in a better sphere of life, as well as by political demagogues and agitators, who have used the most violent and seditious language.

"Chief among the former class, I regret to say, are the secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society in England, Dr. Underhill, and some of the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, who have endorsed and enlarged upon his views and statements."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page —.

Extract from Despatch, 28 October 1865. Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"The fearful but necessary results of agitation by some of the Baptist missionaries in this Colony, and by other political agitators and demagogues, are fully developed in my Despatch, 251, of the 20th of October, giving an account of the recent rebellion, and of the still unsettled state of the island."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page 53.

No. 6.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"One of the great objects of the agitation kept up by certain Baptist ministers or by other Dissenters, is the abolition of payments to the State Church."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 257.

No. 7.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"I deemed it right . . . . to examine some of the letters arriving by the last English mail for certain Baptist ministers."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 253.

No. 8.

In the Blue Book relative to the Disturbances in Jamaica, Part II., page 11., an Extract from the "Jamaica Guardian," of 20th December 1865, is sent by Governor Eyre under the same date. In that article it is said:—

"But we emphatically state it is our belief, and are thoroughly convinced of the correctness of the assertion, Dr. Underhill's letter, and the action of certain Baptist missionaries and others regarding it, were some of the principal causes of the St. Thomas-in-the-East rebellion."

The missionaries are moreover charged in calling "mass meetings" of the peasantry to show them that they were suffering from abject poverty and distress to the point of starvation, &c.

On July 17th a Despatch sent to the Colonial Office with the "Jamaica Guardian" of 15th July 1865, in which the Baptist missionaries are represented as "apparently wishing to bolster up their tottering case." That they were men who have overreached themselves, and now stand convicted before the public of Jamaica, as men in whose good judgment the confidence of the British and Jamaica public cannot be placed, &c.

"Affairs of Jamaica (pages 233-234) for 1866."

From the Honourable *H. Westmoreland* to Governor *Eyre* (Extract).

"At Mr. M'Dowell's request, I send a memorandum of communication made by Mr. Hart, of Montego Bay, to Mr. Charles Levy (Member of Assembly) of this city."

Extract.

"I have just heard that Mr. Hewitt intends to preside at a monster meeting on Monday next, and God only knows what may be the result. Mr. Hewitt is a Baptist parson, and residing only five miles from this. We are all kept in a state of total ignorance as to the meaning of all this, and don't know at what moment we may be pounced upon. We are still without protection; and a magazine with ammunition, totally unguarded, is within a quarter of a mile of the town. God help us."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page 71.

Memorandum by the Custos of Manchester.

"Richard M. Gordon told me that he attended a meeting at Jubilee Chapel at the end of July, when the Rev. W. Claydon made an inflammatory speech to the people, saying that white men oppressed the blacks, that they must not submit to rent land in the way they were doing, and that the Church of England must pay for their own parsons, and not tax them for it. There was another meeting called, but he did not go back, as he felt he was having wrong advice given him against the whites."

(signed) "*John R. Hollingsworth.*"

Extract from a Letter of the Rev. *A. Lindo* to Mr. *Hollingsworth*,, dated Whitefield Mission House, Porus, 25 October 1865. (Blue Book, Part I., page 120.)

"I may also state that on Saturday evening last a large assemblage of men with sticks was seen in front of the rum shop, which is kept on the Baptist Mission premises here. These men, inflamed by drink, might not always disperse as peaceably as on this occasion; an outbreak might be the consequence. I believe that should such a circumstance occur, many worthless, disaffected characters would join in it, and thus valuable lives might be lost, ere needed assistance be rendered."

Appendix B.

No. 1.

Copy of Memorandum furnished by Memorialists' Solicitor, *Charles Harvey*, Esq., Spanish Town.

"In the Royal Commission, 12 February 1866.

"Monday, 12th, the 17th day.

"Some of the Baptist missionaries feel aggrieved by their solicitor's omission to cross-examine Governor Eyre at the time of his examination-in-chief, as to the grounds of his insinuations against Doctor Underhill and the missionaries, referred to in the Governor's Despatch to the Secretary of State.

"This

"This cross-examination was suggested at the time by Mr. Gorrie (for Mr. Phillippo of counsel), but was over-ruled by the Royal Commissioners, it being considered more convenient to defer this till after re-examinations, and until after the evidence as to the causes and suppression be closed.

"The missionaries being apprehensive that an antagonistic feeling may be raised by the publication in England of Governor Eyre's evidence, without their vindication and explanation annexed, it is desired at this stage to have Mr. Millard's (the secretary of the local missionaries) evidence, and also the evidence of the Rev. D. J. East, taken at once, in rebutter; and showing the publication of Dr. Underhill's published letter as the Governor's act.

"Move, therefore, that the Rev. Benjamin Millard be examined to-day or to-morrow on his written statement now produced, as to the facts of publication; and, also, the Rev. Mr. East, as soon as he can be brought to town, saving evidence on the part of the missionaries, as to their explanation and vindication of Mr. Eyre's inuendoes against them, until Mr. Eyre's re-examination."

(signed) "*C. Harvey*, Solicitor."

"George Phillippo, Esq., of Counsel
for Dr. Underhill and the Baptist Missionaries."

Motion made, and also for access to a transcript of the Government short-hand writer's notes of evidence.

The Royal Commissioners will consider and give their determination upon it to-morrow.

Notified in Chambers, that there were no charges against Dr. Underhill or his mission, to require the Commissioners' interference at this stage.

(signed) *C. Harvey.*

13 February 1866.

No. 2.

May it please your Excellency, Spanish Town, 26 February 1866.

Your Excellency will herewith receive a communication signed by the Baptist missionaries now in town, my own among them, signifying their desire and ability to vindicate Dr. Underhill and themselves from the charges expressed and implied of having been accessory to the late riot at Morant Bay by their letters and meetings, as also in other ways, and to the dissatisfaction that is stated to have existed in other parts of the country. This vindication they think the society and public at home will expect from them. They do not, however, wish by this application for your Excellency, as President of the Royal Commission, to depart from the course your Excellency and Assistant Commissioners have decided on pursuing, but only with a view of hearing from your Excellency, as President, an official reply, stating that such an application had been received, but that it was declined as not being within the scope of inquiry directed by the parent Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. M. Phillippo.*

No. 3.

The following Statement was sent in to the Royal Commission on the 26th of February 1866, accompanied with a Letter from their Senior Missionary, the Rev. *J. M. Phillippo.*

In consequence of certain charges against the peasantry, on the part of the authorities, of wide-spread sedition, in consequence also of a few Baptist missionaries, not named, having been charged with nefarious proceedings, by their having, at public meetings, endorsed the statements of Dr. Underhill's letter, several Baptist missionaries, occupying official relations to the Christian body with which they are connected, have been in attendance on the sittings of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the cause and circumstances of the late outbreak in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

They have been so in the hope that an opportunity would be furnished them of meeting these charges by putting evidence counter to them.

The undersigned, with a selected number of other missionaries from various parts of the country, would have been prepared, and are still willing, should they be called upon, to give evidence to the following effect:—

I. In regard to the state of feeling amongst the peasantry towards law and authority as ascertained—

1st. By the most careful inquiry of individual members, and of the officer of their congregations, immediately after the time of the late disturbance.

2dly. As seen in the manner in which these public teachings were received in relation to the duty of obedience to the laws and submission to the Government, was received.

3dly. And when, as confirmed by their intercourse with Christian ministers of other denominations.

4thly. One of their number could have given the result of observations of several journeys extending from St. Ann's to Hanover and Westmoreland, about the time that the outbreak took place; and another as to the cordiality and kindness with which the colonel of one of Her Majesty's regiments, and the detachment accompanied, were treated on their route through the mountains of St. James.

By such evidence the missionaries would have been glad, and still would be glad of the opportunity of vindicating the peasantry, and feeling deeply aggrieved that such charges should ever have been alleged against them.

In regard to the charge alleged against the missionaries, the undersigned and others were and still are prepared to show—

1. That while a few Baptist missionaries, in common with clergymen of the Established Church, and ministers of other Christian denominations did attend public meetings to endorse Dr. Underhill's letter, these meetings, as far as their knowledge of them goes, were orderly in their character, and peaceable in their tendency, so as on no account to deserve to be called nefarious, and that in scarcely any instances were these meetings called by Baptist missionaries, or held in connexion with them, but were mostly parochial meetings.

2. That the testimony of successive Governors of this Island, among them Sir Lionel Smith, Sir Charles Metcalfe, Sir Henry Barkly, to the general character of the missionaries of the Baptist Missionary Society, and the usefulness of their influence in favour of loyalty, law, and order, tending to show how groundless such accusations must be.

(signed) *J. M. Phillippo*, Spanish Town.
J. E. Henderson, Montego Bay.
Walter Dendy, Salter's Hill, St. James.
B. Millard, St. Ann's Bay.
D. J. East, Calabar Institution.

No. 4.

Reply.

Jamaica Royal Commission.

Sir, King's House, Spanish Town, 10 March 1866.

Your letter of the 26th ult., accompanying a memorial signed by yourself and other clergymen of the Baptist communion, and addressed to the President of the Royal Commission, was in due course laid before his Excellency.

In that letter you state the desire and ability of the Baptist clergymen referred to, to vindicate Dr. Underhill and themselves from certain charges of having been accessory to the late disturbance at Morant Bay, and also to disprove the allegation of the existence of a general spirit of disaffection among the peasantry.

I am directed by the President of the Commission to inform you and the other memorialists that no evidence has been given before the Commissioners affecting the character of Dr. Underhill or Baptist missionaries in relation to the recent disturbances in St. Thomas-in-the-East, to which subject their inquiry is limited.

His Excellency is therefore of opinion that it would be a departure from the rule laid down by the Commissioners to admit evidence in contradiction of charges of which they have no cognizance.

It is unnecessary for me to touch upon the other subject embraced in the memorial, inasmuch as evidence with respect to the alleged general disaffection of the peasantry has already been received from several leading members of the Baptist community.

I am, &c.

To the Rev. James Phillippo. (signed) *Charles S. Roundell.*

No. 5.

Sir, Spanish Town, 23 March 1866.

Having been informed that his Excellency, Mr. Eyre, at his examination on Wednesday last, read from the "County Union" newspaper what purported to be a speech delivered by me at Montego Bay in May last, I shall be glad of an opportunity of stating before the Royal Commission that I never delivered the speech as reported in the paper mentioned. I should also be glad of an opportunity of stating that I had nothing whatever to do with getting up any of the so-called "Underhill meetings," with the exception of the one held at Montego Bay. I would, with all respect, suggest that the opportunity I seek should be afforded me, as my name has been mentioned more than once by his Excellency Mr. Eyre.

I am, &c.

To C. S. Roundell, Esq., (signed) *John E. Henderson.*
Secretary to Royal Commission, Spanish Town.

No. 6.

JAMAICA ROYAL COMMISSION.

King's House, Spanish Town,
Sir, 24 March 1866.

I HAVE received your letter of the 23d instant; I beg to state, in reply, that in the course of the evidence tendered by Governor Eyre in his recent examination, it was more than once intimated by the Royal Commissioners that the documents then being put in were admitted, not as evidence of the facts therein contained, but evidence of information (whether intrinsically correct or incorrect) brought to the knowledge of the authorities at the particular time, and upon which the Government acted.

Similarly when, in the course of the same evidence, speeches made at certain so-called "Underhill meetings" were referred to, the Commissioners explained (in answer to observations made by counsel) that such speeches were admitted not as evidence of the language actually used, or of the effect (good or bad) supposed to have been produced by them, but merely as an element which, at that time, contributed to influence the action of the Government.

In other words, the issue in support of which such documentary evidence was admitted was an issue entirely irrespective of the substantive correctness or incorrectness of the facts involved.

That being so, it necessarily follows that the issue of facts, both with reference to the speech alleged to have been delivered by you at Montego Bay in May last, and other matters connected with the so-called "Underhill meetings," was not raised, and consequently, that the occasion for evidence in explanation or contradiction does not arise.

I am, &c.
Rev. J. E. Henderson. (signed) *Charles S. Roundell.*

Appendix C.

No. 1.

REPLY of Earl *Mulgrave.*

HIS Excellency Earl Mulgrave, on his departure, was presented with an address by Baptist missionaries and ministers of other denominations, to which he replied, "But to all of those who have concurred in this address, towards whom the protection of the law was previously doubtful, as well as to that body of Dissenters who have before addressed me, I must here return my thanks for their discreet and praiseworthy conduct during the period of my government.

"That confidence they have uniformly shown in my good intentions on their behalf, which has frequently induced them to practise a patient forbearance under temporary difficulties and unmerited evils, has, I am convinced, by an avoidance of unnecessary collision, tended to secure the successful prosecution of your several duties in that path which is most acceptable to the Divine Founder of our religion—that of peace and goodwill towards men."

No. 2.

Sir *Lionel Smith.*

SIR LIONEL SMITH replied to an Address presented by the Ministers of the Baptist Western Union, on the 18th August 1839, from which the following is extracted:—

"On my assuming the government of this Colony, I strongly expressed my reliance on the whole body of missionaries, in their high integrity of purpose, and in their loyal principles. You more than realize all the benefits I expected from your ministry, by raising the negroes from the mental degradations of slavery to the cheering obligations of Christianity, and they were thus taught that patient endurance of evil which has so materially contributed to the general tranquillity. Even with the aid of a vicious and well-paid press, both in England and in Jamaica, and, it may be presumed, some habitual confidence in Jamaica juries, the enemies of your religion have never dared to go to the proof of their audacious accusations against you.

"The admirable conduct of the peasantry in such a crisis has constituted a proud triumph to the cause of religion; and those who contributed to enlighten them on their moral duties through persecution, insults, and dangers, have deserved the regard and esteem of the good and the just in all Christian countries.

"For myself, gentlemen, I thank you for all the regret you express at my removal from this Government. I have stayed here, however, longer than my duty to my own family warranted. Neither scurrilous abuse from the pulpit, or from the press, or repeated threats of assassination, have deterred me from doing my duty to the emancipated population; I have been more than rewarded by seeing their sober joys in freedom. I fully forgive the violent men who, smarting under the loss of power, have heedlessly imputed to the Executive those galling changes ordained by Providence against the interests of the selfish few for the happiness of the many.

"I entreat you also to forgive your enemies; and I feel confident you will continue to

use your influence in encouraging the industry of the labourers, remembering how essential employment is in all countries for the prevention of crime, and how much the spread of universal liberty to the slave must depend on the result of remunerated labour.

"Gentlemen, I take my leave of you with sentiments of the most sincere respect and esteem. I beg you to receive my best wishes for the peace and happiness of yourselves, your families, and your community; and so long as my name may be recollected by the members of your churches, implore them for my sake to persevere in the character which they have earned as good Christians and loyal subjects."

(signed) "*Lionel Smith.*"

REPLY of Sir *Lionel Smith* to an Address presented to him by Ministers and Members of Congregations residing in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, &c. &c.

Reverend Sir, King's House, 4 March 1839.

I HAVE received the address you have been commissioned to present to me on behalf of the ministers and members of congregations in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, in St. Ann's, and in St. John's.

I have been prevented from replying to it as early as I could have wished, in consequence of indisposition; but I now beg you to accept and convey to all the members of your churches my sincere thanks for the kind consideration which they have expressed towards me, at a time when there is so much unreasonable violence to contend with among all classes.

I am well assured of the loyal and grateful spirit of the whole mass of the people lately emancipated, and I anxiously hope they will, under the careful superintendence of their ministers, continue to improve in all those habits which may lead to their present and future happiness.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

No. 4.

Sir *Henry Barkly.*

ADDRESS of the MINISTERS of the BAPTIST WESTERN UNION to the Governor of Jamaica on his Visit to the Theological Institution of the Baptist Missionary Society, *Calabar*, on Tuesday, 9 May 1854, with his Excellency's Reply.

To His Excellency Sir *Henry Barkly*, Knight, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the ministers connected with the Baptist Western Union, having under our care 59 congregations, comprising between 50,000 and 60,000 individuals, avail ourselves of the present visit of your Excellency, to congratulate your Excellency on your appointment to the government of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions, and to express our earnest desire that you may have the happiness of seeing it rise to the highest degree of prosperity.

We need not express to your Excellency our anxiety to promote the moral and religious improvement of the inhabitants of this island, and in making this statement we may be permitted to inform your Excellency that there are 45 day-schools, and upwards of 60 Sabbath-schools, containing not less than 10,000 scholars in connection with the congregations under our care.

We are fully convinced that the education of the people, to be effective, must be religious; and, feeling as we do, that institutions for religious, combined with secular, education, should be supported by voluntary contributions, your Excellency will not be surprised that we cannot conscientiously accept of Government grants for educational purposes, believing that if those who hold influential positions in the community could be sufficiently interested in the progress of education to afford their countenance and support, the necessary amount of instruction would be supplied.

We have in successful operation a theological institution for the training of native ministers, several of whom, having finished their term, are now located in various parts of the island, as pastors of churches; while we contemplate the further extension of that institution, by connecting with it a normal establishment for the training of efficient day-school teachers, and for the instruction of lay students in the higher departments of knowledge.

We beg to assure your Excellency that it will ever be our aim to promote, by our teaching and influence, the loyal and peaceful conduct of the people under our care, as also the right discharge of those social, moral, and religious duties, upon which the welfare of the community depends.

We sincerely trust that the health of your Excellency, and that of your estimable lady, may be long continued; and that under your administration the invaluable blessings of religion and education may be widely and uninterruptedly diffused.

Edward Hewett, Chairman.
Benjamin Millard, Secretary,

REPLY.

Reverend Sirs,

I HAVE received your congratulations on my appointment to the government of this island, with much gratification, and beg to assure you, in return, that I shall be happy on all

all occasions to co-operate with you for the promotion of the moral and social improvement of the large portion of the inhabitants who are in connection with your mission.

Ample opportunity has been afforded me, during my present tour, of judging for myself of the good which has been effected by your labours, in districts very often so remote and difficult of access, that they must otherwise, in all probability, have remained destitute of the means of religious worship or secular instruction; and I should be unworthy of the position I have the honour to fill, were I to permit my personal convictions, as a member of the Established Church, to weaken my testimony as to the great value of the services rendered to the cause of civilisation and humanity by the society to which you belong.

A crisis, indeed, may be said to have arrived, when it behoves all who desire the restoration of Jamaica to its former agricultural and commercial prosperity, to lay aside the minor differences of opinion, and unite cordially for the advancement of their common interests; and I cannot mark more strongly my confidence in the loyal and peaceful character of your teaching, than by declaring that you will ever find me ready to employ the influence derivable from my office for the countenance and support of your mission; and more especially of the numerous and well-conducted educational establishments invariably associated with them, which reflect so much credit, both individually and collectively, upon the ministers of the Baptist denomination.

I thank you most sincerely for your kind wishes for the welfare of Lady Barkly and myself, and trust, with you, that the period of my administration may be distinguished by a progressive advancement in the state of society in this island.

Extract from a Despatch of Sir *Henry Barkly*, May 1854.

"Among the visits paid, with a view of making myself better acquainted with the sentiments of the peasantry, I stopped on two occasions at the principal Baptist stations in St. James, Mount Carey, near the Montpeliers, and Salter's Hill, on the road to Maroon Town, the ministers in charge of which had previously requested me to receive addresses from their assembled congregations. * * * * The advice now given by the Baptist ministers to their flocks is sound enough, and I should be very sorry to see the decline of their influence over them, perceiving, as I do, that no other would replace it, and that if left to themselves in remote localities, the people must inevitably retrograde. * * * * It would obviously be utterly impracticable for the rector or curates of a parish, containing some 300 square miles, to leave the localities to which their duties tie them down for the purpose of following these settlers in the wilderness, and urging them to the erections of chapels and schools, as the Baptists invariably do. That their teaching has, on the whole, been productive of much good, is now, I think, all but universally admitted; and, I am bound to state, that I found their congregations well dressed and orderly, and with every appearance of being, as I believe they are, 'the most civilised portion of the emancipated population.'"

Governor *Eyre*.

In reply to an address from the whole body of the ministers, delegates, and others composing "The Jamaica Baptist Union," on occasion of celebrating the jubilee of the Baptist Mission to this island, his Excellency Governor Eyre was pleased to say:—

"I cannot, gentlemen, close my reply without briefly adverting to the gratifying account which I saw in one of our daily journals that, at your recent meetings at Montego Bay, there could not have been less than 10,000 persons assembled to meet you in celebration of the jubilee, and yet (to use the words of that journal) not a single police case has resulted from this mammoth and memorable demonstration.

"What a contrast the peaceable and orderly assembly, to celebrate a religious service, presents to days gone by. Surely, when the influence of the Christian missionary is so powerful in the preservation of outward conduct and decorum, we may reasonably hope that it is not without its effects upon the inner man; and that as years pass by and successive generations follow each other, the failings and vices of the rural population, in a great degree due to the yet unextinguished and degrading influences of slavery, may give way before the practice and teachings of Christian ministers, and that our country people may become in after years as honest, as industrious, as truthful, and as virtuous, as the peasantry of any other country.

"Persevere, then, gentlemen, in the holy undertaking in which you are engaged, and doubt not that, in His own good time, God will grant an answer to your prayers and a blessing on your labours."

No. 5.

Joseph Sturge and *Thomas Harvey*.

In reply to an address presented to them on the 10th March 1837, by the Baptist Association at Sav-la-Mar, on their visit to this island, they say:—

"Amongst the different chapels and schools which we have visited, none have appeared to us more animated with life and zeal than yours, and we have often been refreshed by the sight and sound of your overflowing assemblies. * * * * We shall ever esteem it a distinguished privilege to have become acquainted, not by report only, but by our own

observation, with the extraordinary and visible results of the Gospel faithfully preached amongst an ignorant and degraded people."

* *Sic* in orig.

Joseph John Gurney, Esq., in his "Winter in the West Indies," 184*, makes frequent mention of the Baptist missionaries, and the effect of their labours in the different districts he visited. We only quote the following, page 98:—

"Who can calculate the moral advantages derived to the negro population from these extensive efforts in the cause of religion; efforts which have been almost doubled in efficacy since the abolition of slavery? That these advantages are at once both great and solid, and appeared to us to be counteracted by no unfair bias, we are bound to bear our unequivocal testimony. We can easily suppose that individual missionaries, during that long continuance of difficulty and conflict to which they have been exposed, have not always confined themselves within the bounds of prudence and moderation. We are ourselves aware of some such instances; but these circumstances are as nothing compared to the general influence of these pious men, in promoting both the temporal and spiritual welfare of all classes of the community. The Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, for many years past, have been the unflinching, untiring friends of the negro. No 'threats' have daunted them, no insults or persecution have driven them from the field. They are now reaping their reward, the devoted attachment of the people and the prevalent acknowledgment of their integrity and usefulness."

Appendix D.

COMPARATIVE VIEW of Number of BAPTIST MINISTERS, CHURCHES, and MEMBERS connected with the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY in each Parish in *Jamaica*.

County and Parish.	Population.	Number of Baptist Ministers.	Number of Baptist Churches.	Number of Members.
SURREY:				
Kingston	27,359	2	2	*400
Port Royal	7,886	–	–	—
Saint Andrew	23,451	1	4	*300
Saint David	6,452	–	1	509
Saint Thomas-in-the-East	26,229	1	3	286
Portland	8,540	1	2	117
Saint George	9,077	–	1	142
Metcalfe	15,762	2	2	687
TOTAL in County	124,736	7	15	2,441
MIDDLESEX:				
Saint Catherine	12,715	1	1	819
Saint John's	9,301	–	3	284
Saint Dorothy	5,438	1	2	295
Saint Thomas-y-Vale	19,020	2	4	*1,872
Clarendon	24,741	3	10	1,428
Vere	10,098	1	2	264
Manchester	32,745	2	2	387
Saint Mary's	17,106	2	4	1,149
Saint Ann's	36,109	6	11	3,744
TOTAL	167,483	16	39	10,242
CORNWALL:				
Saint Elizabeth	37,777	1	3	346
Westmoreland	33,849	1	4	1,401
Hanover	23,451	2	6	1,746
Saint James	26,904	6	6	2,975
Trelawney	27,066	6	10	3,501
TOTAL in County	149,047	16	29	9,969
GRAND TOTAL	441,266	39	83	22,652
Two Ministers are at present without Pastoral Charges		2		
		41		

* Proximate Number, no Returns at hand.

It is computed that in general the Members constitute one-third of the persons who attend the Ministry, or are under Ministerial influence. Assuming this as a rough calculation, the number connected with the Baptist Mission stands thus:—

Members	22,652
Inquirers, Sabbath and Day Scholars, Stated and Occasional Hearers, and others	45,304
	67,956

Appendix E.

No. 1.—TABULAR, exhibiting a List of the more Respectable Persons Arrested, &c. &c.; and the Proportions connected with the different Denominations.

NAMES.	Religious Denomination.	Trade, Office, or Profession.	Supposed Crime.	Residence when Arrested.	Acquitted after Imprisonment.	Punished, or to be Tried.	REMARKS.
G. W. Gordon	Church of England	Merchant, &c.	Rebellion	Kingston	-	Executed.	All the persons arrested were imprisoned at Morant Bay, or at the camp, from three weeks to two months; they were seized at dead of night, their papers seized, and in many cases those arrested only on suspicion were treated as the worst of criminals.
Rev. J. F. Roach	Native Wesleyan Association.	Minister	Sedition	ditto	-	To be tried.	
Rev. Crole	Native Baptist	ditto	ditto	ditto	-	ditto.	Crole was employed by Mr. Gordon.
Alex. Jeffries	Kirk of Scotland	Master carpenter	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	Harry set at liberty on trial, after two months' confinement in a dungeon at Morant Bay.
Thomas Harry	Church of England	Shoemaker	ditto	ditto	-	To be tried.	
Alex. Miller	ditto	Pawnbroker	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	
W. M'Cormack	ditto	Wharfinger	ditto	ditto	ditto	—	
J. E. Goldson	Methodist United Church.	Late senior serjeant of police.	ditto	ditto	-	Flogged and to be tried.	Goldson was flogged for requesting better food, by order of the Provost Marshal. At liberty after two months' confinement in a filthy dungeon at Morant Bay, where he was treated as a criminal. He and Harry were brought to Spanish Town under a writ of Habeas Corpus.
W. R. Smith	Church of England	Late catechist, Church of England.	ditto	ditto	-	ditto.	
J. M. Vaz	Jew	Proprietor of the "Watchman."	Seditious articles	ditto	No charge.	—	
Rev. E. Palmer	Baptist Union	Minister	Sedition	ditto	-	To be tried.	
N. Harris	Native Baptist	Minister, occasional	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	
Robert Dick	Church of England	Printer	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Robert Davis	ditto	Her Majesty's Customs.	Concealing gunpowder in his house.	ditto	ditto.	—	Mr. Davis has been restored to his situation in the Customs, although suspected of secreting gunpowder for the execution of the plot at Christmas.
R. Vinen, Esq.	Independent	Surgeon dentist	Sedition	ditto	ditto.	—	Mr. Vinen was arrested on suspicion, being a friend of Mr. Gordon—a truly good man. He was imprisoned at Up Park Camp, and knows much of the transactions there. He is now in England.
F. Killerman	Church of England	Master builder	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Samuel Clarke	ditto	Vestryman	ditto	St. David's	-	Executed.	
Noel Croswell	Jew	Storekeeper	Shipped gunpowder to Hayti.	Kingston	No charge.	—	
C. G. Morgan	Church of England	Clerk to Attorney General.	Sedition	Spa. Town	ditto.	—	Morgan, on the execution of the rumoured plot at Christmas, was to be appointed Attorney General instead of his master.
W. Whitfinch	Baptist	Saddler	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Dr. Bruce	Church of England	Medical practitioner, and coroner	ditto	Vere	-	To be tried.	Dr. Bruce was seized by a company of volunteers at dead of night, brought under escort, literally bound with cords, and conveyed to Up Park Camp as a criminal, slept there one night only, and immediately after that taken to Morant Bay.
D. P. Nathan	ditto	Solicitor	ditto	Kingston	No charge.	—	
Robert O'Meally	-	Dealer in woods	ditto	Spa. Town	ditto.	—	
Sidney Levien	Jew	Editor "County Union"	Seditious articles	Montego Bay	ditto.	—	
Rev. Mr. Service	Baptist Union	Minister	Sedition	Portland	ditto.	—	
H. J. Lawrence	Church of England	Overseer	ditto	St. Thomas-in-the East.	-	Executed.	
J. S. McPherson	ditto	Usher, National school	ditto	Spa. Town	No charge.	—	

D

Appendix E—*continued.*

No. 1.—Tabular, exhibiting a List of the more Respectable Persons Arrested, &c. &c.; and the Proportions connected with the Different Denominations—*continued.*

NAMES.	Religious Denomination.	Trade, Office, or Profession.	Supposed Crime.	Residence when Arrested.	Acquitted after Imprisonment.	Punished, or to be Tried.	REMARKS.
Rev. — Warren	American Native Baptist.	Minister	Sedition	Kingston		Executed.	Arrested in the hope of his swearing away the lives of Morgan and Whitfinch (was Robert O'Mealley).
Wm. Silvera	Church of England	Deputy Marshal	ditto	Port Maria	No charge.	—	
Thos. Murray	ditto		ditto	Vere		Flogged.	Mr. Levien arrested under circumstances of great cruelty, and imprisoned six weeks at Morant Bay.
Foster March	ditto	Solicitor's clerk	ditto	Kingston	No charge.	—	
Robert Levy	ditto	Saddler	ditto	St. David's	ditto.	—	
Geo. Warner	ditto	Overseer	ditto	St. John's		Tried and pardoned.	Lawrence tried to save the lives of some of those murdered, and was condemned on very insufficient evidence. He was in Mr. Gordon's employ.
— Henry	ditto	Collector of petty debts.	ditto	Port Royal Mountains.	No charge.	—	
McLean					ditto.	—	
G. N. Williams	Church of England	Clerk	Sedition	Kingston	ditto.	—	McPherson arrested in the hope of swearing away Morgan's life.
J. P. Oeria	Roman Catholic	Head fisherman	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
— Duaney	Church of England	Pound-keeper	ditto	Port Royal Mountains.	ditto.	—	Mr. Warren used to preach for Mr. Gordon.
Haitian Refugees.							Thos. Murray was arrested for some expression of doubt as to Mr. Gordon's guilt.
General Lubin	Roman Catholic	Ex-Governor of Port Prince.	Suspected of being concerned in a conspiracy to destroy the white inhabitants, and annex the Island to Hayti.	Kingston	No charge	Ordered off the Island in 14 days, together with others not naturalized, among whom is the late Emperor Solouque, family, and staff.*	Warner was about receiving 50 lashes, but was reprieved on the testimony of a gentleman as to his unexceptionable character, and that his accused had been convicted and punished for perjury.
His three sons Lubin	ditto	Haitien army	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
Lubin	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
Lubin	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
General Solomon	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
General Lamothe	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
And 18 others more or less.	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.		
Banuzzi	ditto	A Venetian teacher of languages.	Charged with drawing a plan of Kingston for the use of the conspirators.	Kingston	ditto	—	McLean was at the camp for many days, and was mis-sent to Morant Bay, and remained there for many weeks, when he was released.

* This gentlemen arrived in this Island after having been in many campaigns with Garibaldi, and was engaged as a teacher of languages with Rev. Mr. Radcliffe's Collegiate School, in Kingston, and being about to return to Italy, drew a plan of Kingston to carry with him. This explodes the famous plot for the destruction of the white inhabitants of Kingston, on Christmas Day, now happily passed over in peace. Similarly has vanished the "Ignis fatuus" of a widely extended conspiracy. There was no such thing, as will be testified from every district in the Island. It is apprehended that this impression was given to throw dust in the eyes of the people of England, and to justify the tragedy that has been enacted at St. Thomas-in-the-East. The above gentleman says that he has been in prisons in Italy, but was never so shamefully treated as by the authorities here.

Appendix E.

No. 2.—Totals exhibiting the Numbers respectively connected with the different Denominations arrested.

Church of England - -	25	Of these 2 executed -	3	To be tried.
Native Wesleyan - -	1	- - - - -	1	- ditto.
Independents - - -	1	Dismissed without charge.		
Methodist United Church -	1	- - - - -	1	To be tried.
Jews - - - - -	3	Dismissed without charge.		
Native Baptists - -	3	- ditto - ditto.		
Connected with B. M. Society.	3	- ditto - ditto -	1	To be tried.
Roman Catholics - -	25	All dismissed without charge.		
Denomination Unknown -	2			
	64	Total - -	6	To be tried.

Appendix F.

No. 1.

Resolution adopted after having been spoken to at the Anniversary of Chapel Openings at Salter's Hill and Maldon, in 1865 :—

"That this meeting passing by, for the present, the policy that ought to be pursued by the Legislature, considers that some of the means to be employed in order to prove the temporal and spiritual interests of the colony are :—the spread of education, the prevalence of a spirit of persevering industry, and the right discharge of our personal relative and religious duties, accompanied with earnest prayer to God, that His blessing may be more fully enjoyed, and that He may once more cause prosperity to abound in our midst."

Resolution discussed and adopted at the Anniversary of Freedom :—

"That this meeting urges upon all connected with the church and congregation the importance of prayer to God for a revival of religion, and for the cessation of crime; as well as the necessity laid upon them by setting an example of honesty, sobriety, and industry, of constant attendance on the means of grace, of care in training up their children, of zealous support of day and Sunday schools, and the religious institutions of the land, to elevate the community, and promote the prosperity of all classes."

No. 2.

Read at the Annual Meeting of the Jamaica Baptist Union, 1856, and adopted.

"*The connection between Social Habits and Personal Religion.*

"The Circular Letter for 1856, of the Jamaica Baptist Union, by *D. J. East*, Calabar Institution.

"Circular Letter.

"Dear Brethren,

"As the pastors of the churches composing the 'Jamaica Baptist Union,' we have a few words to say to you on the subject appointed at our last annual meeting for consideration at this. That subject, it will be remembered, was, 'The connection between social habits and personal religion.'

"A habit is any particular line of conduct, to which, by its frequent repetition, a person has become so familiar, as to be predisposed to it; so that habit is said to be second nature. We do not, however, confound nature and habit with each other. Nature includes whatever dispositions and appetites are born with us into the world. Habits are acquired. Thus we do not talk of eating and drinking as a habit, because we do this according to natural appetite; but we do speak of a habit of eating and drinking to excess, because this is acquired by repeated indulgence.

"By social habits we mean those acts of social life which are of daily occurrence, and which, as they are performed in our intercourse with those around us, are more or less open to the observation of others. Thus, for example, if a man is known to be always true to his engagements; if having made an appointment, physical impossibilities not interposing, he is sure to keep it; if having promised to be at some particular place at a specified time, you know that he will be there at the stroke of the clock; if, should he be a church member, you feel certain that, at the opening of class, or at the commencement of public worship, he will be there, whoever else may be absent, you say that he is a punctual man. With him punctuality is a habit. And, inasmuch as punctuality belongs to the intercourse between man and man, we call it a social habit.

"So, in like manner if a man is accustomed to speak evil of his neighbours; if he is prone to say of another in his absence what he would not say to him in his presence; if he is ready to take up every idle rumour to another's prejudice, and to circulate it, if he takes a pleasure in such defamatory gossipping, and is disposed to magnify, rather than to extenuate the scandal, we call such a man a backbiter and a slanderer; and, inasmuch as backbiting and slandering take place in social life, we call them social habits.

"And so again if a man be negligent in his person; if, for instance, he goes to his provision ground in the morning, and returning home at night, goes to bed without washing from his skin the dirt which must have accumulated upon it; if he is contented to go about in filthy raiment or in rags, which hardly cover his nakedness; if, on Sundays, or on holidays, his slouching hat, and ill-shapen coat, and half-tied cravat, with his grimy hands and face, show that he has no respect for his personal appearance, we say that such a man is slovenly, and wanting in cleanliness; and inasmuch as slovenliness and filthiness are social offences, so they come under the denomination of social habits.

"Now, there are some professing Christians who seem to imagine that religion and social habits stand in no relation to each other. They are accustomed to think of religion as a subject isolated and apart from all other subjects. They admit the sublimity of its doctrines, and the elevated character of the affections it is calculated to excite, while they commonly attach undue importance to the ceremonial observances it enjoins. But with many this is all. Religion is divorced from social life, and treated as though it had nothing to do with social duties. With such individuals a man may be ever so wanting in punctuality, without any reflection upon his religious profession; he may be ever so much given to backbiting and slander, and yet be a saint in personal piety; his habits may be filthy and slovenly without the forfeiture of his religious character.

Practically, indeed, we have too much reason to fear that such sentiments are widely prevalent in all lands, and amongst all classes of Christian people. But whatever the practice of the members of our churches associated in this 'Union,' we have the satisfaction of knowing that no sentiments can be in more direct opposition to the religious teachings you have been accustomed to receive.

"On the character of their teaching your ministers may confidently make their appeal to you as witnesses. They have, indeed, endeavoured to make the grand distinctive doctrines of the Gospel the chief topics of their ministry, proclaiming a full and free salvation through faith in the atoning blood and righteousness of Christ. They have laboured to bring you under the constraining influence of a Saviour's love; and have sought to win over your best affections to him. And while they have warned you against attaching a saving efficacy to ceremonial observances of any kind, solemnly assuring you that in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision availeth anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creature, they have never failed to defend and enforce obedience to Divine institutions.

"But with all this, must you not, dear brethren, bear them record, that your ministers have never failed to insist upon your religious obligations in relation to the practical duties of social life? Have they not always maintained the connection between the two? Have they not again and again urged upon you the necessity of exemplifying the one in the other? And have they ever ceased to denounce the inconsistency of making a profession of religion, while social duties are neglected, and social obligations violated?

"No, brethren! And under a deep conviction of the importance of such views they now invite your earnest and prayerful attention to the subject which they have to submit for your consideration at this annual session of our associated churches. It presents itself under a two-fold aspect. The influence of personal religion over our social habits, and the influence of social habits over our personal religion.

"I. Personal religion, having its seat in the affections of the heart, asserts its supremacy over the whole man,—body, soul, and spirit. It claims a right to reign in every department of human conduct, in every relation of life. We know of no condition,—no circumstances in which we can be placed, in which it does not meet us with its injunctions, or in which it does not lay down some principles to regulate our actions.

"It asserts its authority in the domestic circle. It addresses itself to husbands, and to them it says, 'Husbands, love your wives.' It addresses itself to wives, and to them it says, 'Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands.' It addresses itself to children, and to them it says, 'Children, obey your parents; honour your father and mother.' It addresses itself to parents, and to them it says, 'Ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.'

"Religion takes its stand in the servants' yard, and to them it says, 'Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh.' It speaks with the same

authority

authority to masters, and to them it says, 'Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal.'

"It follows with its injunctions the overseer and the labourer into the cane-field and the boiling-house, and it requires the one 'not to oppress an hired servant,' while it prohibits the other from the commission of those petty thefts to which multitudes are addicted.

"It meets man and man in the daily intercourse of life,—in the provision ground, the market-place, and the store, and with all the force of Divine authority, it says, 'Lie not one to another;' 'speak the truth every man to his neighbour;' 'Provide things honest in the sight of all men;' 'Put away all anger and clamour, and evil speaking, with all malice.' It requires us not only to 'do justly,' but to 'love mercy;' 'to do good and to communicate.' It points us to the house of mourning, and sums up all practical religion in this, 'to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.'

"Now, who, in the face of these injunctions, shall deny the connection between our social habits and our personal religion; and what must we think of those who, either in doctrine or in practice, attempt to divorce the one from the other?

"Nor is this all. Religion is not only an authority, it is a power. Not only in all our social relations does it meet us with its injunctions, it is eminently adapted to exert the most potent influence over us in them.

"1. Social duties are enforced by social obligations. But how high the obligations by which religion enforces them! You are a master, and you are laid under certain obligations to those who serve you, by the nature of the compact made and the relation subsisting between you. But religion reminds you of still higher relations and responsibilities. It points you to an authority to which masters and servants are equally accountable. It tells you of a tribunal at which both will be judged. Or, on the other hand, you are a servant; religion enforces the duties which you owe to your earthly master, not only by the obligations which, from the nature of the relation, you owe to him, but by what you owe to your master in heaven. It requires you to serve, 'not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing, that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

"2. Religion, again, not only adds to social obligations, the weight of its solemn sanctions, but it brings to bear upon them the force of motives the most powerful and persuasive. Does it, for example, require wives to submit to their own husbands? It is 'as unto the Lord; for the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ also is the head of the church, and he is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.' Or does it, on the other hand, require husbands to love their wives? It is, 'even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water, by the word that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies.'

"3. But yet, once more, religion places man and man in new relations to each other, adapted to sanctify and sweeten all their social intercourse. When Paul in his epistle to Philemon commends to him his returning slave Onesimus, he bids him welcome him, 'Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved.' Christianity does not snap asunder any of our social ties, but it forms others which cannot fail to affect beneficially those which had a prior existence.

"Endearing, for instance, as is the relation between husband and wife, Christianity unites them by closer and yet more lasting bonds; for it constitutes them fellow heirs of the grace of life. So again, the compact between master and servant may be strong and binding, but Christianity places them both under a compact stronger still, for both must equally say, 'One is our master, even Christ, and we are brethren.' How sweetening and sanctifying the influence, which the consciousness of these spiritual relations must exert! What sweet submissiveness should they induce in the wife to her husband! and what devoted affection on the part of the husband to the wife! what self-sacrificing fidelity in servants to their masters! and what equity, forbearance, and generosity, on the part of masters to them.

"4. Religion, yet further, induces a state of mind which predisposes to the discharge of social obligations. Why is it that the past history of the world has been little more than a long catalogue of social crimes? Why is it, that, to use the language of inspiration in describing its condition, 'it is filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful?' What is it that has produced this picture of social wickedness? May it not be traced to the fact, that men are alienated from God? Is not this the primary cause, that 'the carnal mind is enmity against God, and is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be?'

"And what is it, that shall most surely change the scene? What but that religion which begins its operations in reconciling the creature to the Creator! and which, while it pro-

claims glory to God in the highest, publishes peace on earth, goodwill towards men! and which in its ultimate and universal diffusion shall accomplish the visions of prophecy, and produce the realisation of that social millennium in which 'the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.'

"Let us then, dear brethren, never for a moment imagine that our religion and our social duties can be separated from each other. Religion enjoins them with all the potency of its authority, and is pre-eminently adapted to exert the mightiest influence in favour of a full and efficient discharge of them. And hence, having made a profession of religion, we invite you solemnly to consider that your pastors,—your fellow Christians,—the world at large, expect your piety to be exemplified, not only in the discharge of what you are accustomed to look upon in a specific sense as your religious duties, but in the better discharge of the duties of social and every-day life,—in the improvement of all your social habits.

"We expect you, indeed, to fulfil your obligations as church members. Your leaders have a right to look for your punctual attendance at the class-house, and your ministers upon the public worship of God. Your fellow members have a right to expect from you all the offices of Christian kindness and affection. Those who serve you in the gospel of Christ, and thereby minister unto you in spiritual things, have a right to expect from you such a supply of your carnal things as are needful to their daily sustenance. And the cause of Him whose you are, and whom you profess to serve, has a right to expect that you consecrate yourself unreservedly to its advancement.

"But, dear brethren, we wish at this annual gathering of our associated churches, to admonish you, that you must not sum up all religion in what may be more strictly denominated religious duties. No, brethren! your religion must be exemplified in your every-day life—it must be seen in all your social habits.

"Your personal appearance, brethren, must testify to your personal piety. Cleanliness is nearly allied to godliness. Dress is often an index of character; and religion, while it frowns upon frivolity and extravagance in it demands a due regard to decency. Women, especially, are required to "adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works—the apostle thus forbidding on the one hand that love of finery and display which vanity indulges to attract attention, and, on the other hand that negligence of attire which, leaving the person half exposed, either serves as a bait to the licentiousness of wicked men, or excites the blush of shame in the right-minded passer by.

"Your homes, again, as well as your persons, should bear witness to your religion. O! what a picture of order and neatness—of cleanliness and propriety—of concord and peace—of kindness and love—should be every Christian dwelling. The humblest cottage of a Christian man should be a model home. We should expect it to surpass others in the neatness of its structure and the excellence of its materials. While another man might be satisfied with a rude hut of thatched covering and mud walls, we should expect to see the godly man rearing a house of substantial timbers and shingled roof. We should look in it for a comfortably boarded floor, kept clean and bright, with "mason" or "Spanish walls," nicely limewashed both within and without. We should expect to see its arrangements presenting an air of comfort and propriety; rooms in it adapted to the different purposes of domestic accommodation, so that grown-up sons and daughters, and parents with younger children, may not at night have to herd together in the same apartment. We should expect to see it with at least some articles of useful furniture. We should look for chairs and tables, not for blocks of wood and of stone as their substitutes. We should expect to see the husband and wife with their little ones sitting down together to their meals at the same board; not the wife standing by like a slave while her tyrant master devours his food, after which she and her children, like pigs, eat in this corner or in that, or mess together from the iron pot without any regard to decency. And in the morning, before the labour of the day begins, and in the evening, when it has come to a close, we should expect to see the head of the household gathering its members around the domestic altar, to be instructed from the word of God, and to unite by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to make known to Him their requests. Your homes, brethren, should bear witness to your piety.

"So also should your religion be conspicuous in every domestic relation. The wife should be able to bear witness that religion makes the man a better husband; and the husband that it makes the woman a better wife. Your children should be able to testify that you are better parents; and your parents that you are better children; your masters that you are better servants; and your servants that you are better masters. If the husband be tyrannical, if the wife be refractory, if children be disobedient, and parents harsh and cruel, if masters be unjust and oppressive, and servants be unfaithful and dishonest, what must we think of their Christianity?

"Nor should the influence of religion be conspicuous in your domestic relations alone. It should be seen in all the daily intercourse of life. You are buying or selling in the

market

market-place or the store; you should be known as a Christian in all your transactions. A man is selling to a neighbour a barrel of sugar; not knowing the state of the markets, he offers it at a price below its market value; worldly selfishness would take advantage of his ignorance, but Christian principle would scorn to do so, and would give him the worth of his commodity; does he offer it for 10 dollars when it is worth a dollar more, it would voluntarily give him 11. Some months ago a gentleman purchased a barrel of sugar, which, between the time of the sale and the delivery, lost somewhat in bulk and weight. Before it was opened, the seller having suspected from the quantity of molasses which had run out that this was the case, called upon the buyer and requested to see it; and on ascertaining that his suspicions were well-founded, at once, spontaneously and unasked, made a suitable abatement upon the price. This was Christian principle, this was religion carried out and exemplified in social life.

"Many of you are working on pens and estates; some in the cane-field, and others in the boiling house. In such service, professors of religion mingle with men of the world. Many of the practices, in connection with such occupations, are known to be dishonest, and others are too abominable to be named. The practice of cane and sugar stealing is proverbial, and so common that numbers hardly regard it as a sin. That men of no religion should be chargeable with such practices is, perhaps, not surprising; but that men calling themselves Christians should be guilty of them is a contradiction which it is impossible to reconcile. No, brethren, in such associations there should be a marked distinction between you and others. The overseer and the book-keeper should be able to point to any one of you, and say, 'I know that man; I can trust him; he never steals. I need never uncover his "can" as he leaves the boiling-house; he would not carry away an ounce of sugar which I had not given to him; he is a Christian.'

"In daily service you have property entrusted to you; oxen, and wains, and mules, and horses; and very often in your various occupations you must be left without the eye of any superior upon you. Religious principle should be all-sufficient to make you faithful. Some years ago a company of slaves were assembled together for the worship of God. They had no minister amongst them, and, therefore, one of their own number was endeavouring to edify the rest. He had for his text the words of the apostle, 'But now being made free from sin, and become servants of God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.' In the course of his address he had to explain what is meant by holiness. He did not attempt any refined or elaborate definition; but he reminded his brethren that sometimes master was with them, and sometimes master was away. 'Now this,' said he, 'is holiness, to work as well when master's eye is not upon us, as when it is.' And truly, brethren, whatever may be wanting in this explanation of holiness, it describes the conduct which should characterize every servant professing godliness.

"Many of you, once more, are the possessors of houses and lands, or the occupants of 'grounds' neighbouring to others. You are also the owners of fowls, and pigs, and goats, and horses. Your neighbours are growers of provision as well as yourselves; and their produce is as valuable to them as yours is to you. They are bound to respect your rights, and you are under the same obligation to respect theirs. You, moreover, are professing Christians, and, possibly, they are not. They are indeed required, as well as you, to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them. But your profession of religion lays you under still higher obligation; and whatever may be said of them, they ought to be able to feel the most perfect security in their neighbourhood to you. It should never be possible for any one to say of you that you willingly allow your fowls, or your pigs, or your goats, or your horses, to trespass on your neighbour's property. Religious principle should constrain you to protect his grounds from depredation as you would your own; for Christianity not only requires you to do that which is just and equal, it commands you to 'love your neighbour as yourself.'

"II. But we wish now to say a few words on the second aspect of our subject. Having shown you how personal religion aims to influence our social habits, how well adapted it is to do so, and how it ought to influence them; we wish further to show you how our social habits also influence our personal religion.

"In its nature and essential characteristics true religion is uniform. It is the same in all ages, under all dispensations, in all countries, and amongst all people. It may, however, exist in different degrees; and it admits of many modifications. Now, of all agencies which are likely to influence the measure and to modify the character of our personal piety, perhaps none are more powerful than our social habits. This will be best explained and illustrated by looking at some few points in which this is especially likely to be the case.

1. "The claims of religion are paramount over all others. It claims not only a place in every man's regard, but the highest. It requires that all else should be subordinated to it. 'Seek first,' said the Saviour, when dissuading his disciples against an inordinate regard for earthly things, 'seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.'

"Now, brethren, we know of nothing more likely to affect our personal religion,—and to affect it injuriously,—in the ascendency to which it rightfully lays claim, than many of our prevailing social habits. The spirit of the world and the spirit of religion are antagonist to each other: insomuch that John says, 'If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him:' and Paul commands us, 'To come out from the world, to

be separate; and to touch not the unclean thing.' Just in proportion, therefore, as our social habits are chargeable with worldly conformity, must they be inimical to true piety; and religion fail to have its rightful pre-eminence.

"And how many of the social habits which prevail, even among professing Christians, assume this character. Look, for instance, at that habit of ornament and finery in dress, which has already been incidentally adverted to. How often has religion been sacrificed at its shrine! Do you see a young female decked out in frills and flounces unbecoming her station, with gayest coloured flowers and ribbons on her bonnet, a gilded chain and showy strings of beads around her neck, her fingers covered with rings, and heavy weights pendant from her ears? To what conclusion are you inevitably driven in regard to her personal piety? Is it religion, or the love of finery in dress that has the ascendancy? Examine her church-member's 'ticket,' and you will find that while she spends pounds upon the decoration of her person, she hardly contributes 1 *s.* a year to the cause of God. Ask her 'class' and her closet, and you will find that the preparation of her dress and her personal adornment absorb so much time that she has little to spare for the exercises of social or private devotion. Here, then, is a social habit, the effect of which is manifestly to destroy the ascendency of religion in the heart.

"And nearly allied to this is another social habit in which a similar effect is observed. It is evidently the duty of every man, woman, and child, to appear in the house of God, on the Lord's day, in clean and decent attire. And no doubt with proper forethought and management, every man, woman, and child, except in cases of affliction, might invariably do so.

"But circumstances sometimes transpire in this country to interfere with the washing of clothes for the uses of the Sabbath. Now in such circumstances, what is the prevailing practice? A minister misses Thomas James or James Thomas, or some other 'somebody,' from chapel, and inquires the cause. How commonly is he told that his wife or his mother was unable to get up his clean clothes, and so he was obliged to stay at home. Or, there is a thin attendance on the Sunday services. What can be the reason? The sun arose without a cloud; the day is fine; there is no prospect of rain; you would think there was nothing to hinder your people from attendance on the public worship of God. But there was rain on Friday, and perhaps on Saturday; and the family linen has not been got ready for Sunday wear. And so, because Sunday clothes are not available for use, the Sunday must be profaned and prostituted to sloth and idleness; the house of God must be forsaken; the means of grace must be disregarded; and the soul's spiritual improvement neglected.

"Now, what is this but sacrificing religion to the world; showing a higher regard to external appearance, than to the cultivation of inward piety; paying more deference to man who looks upon the outward appearance, than to God who looks upon the heart. So true is it that our social habits may interfere with the supremacy of godliness.

2. "But again, our social habits may not only interfere with the ascendency of religion, they may also have an important influence over its general tone. True religion should ennoble, elevate, and sanctify the spirit. If the tone of our personal piety be what it ought to be, it will raise our thoughts and our affections above earthly things; it will dispose us habitually to pursue those which are heavenly and eternal; and, transforming us into the Divine image, it will make us meet for the Divine presence in a bright and sinless world.

"But how banefully, in this respect, may our piety be influenced by our social habits. No doubt to keep up its spirituality we need to exercise the most constant watchfulness and care. And yet there are some social habits prevailing amongst us most inimical to it.

"God has graciously given to us the Sabbath to promote our growth in grace, and to afford us a special season for increasing in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. To this end he has appointed the public services of the sanctuary and the preaching of his word. And the attendance of a large congregation on the Lord's day on the public means of grace, is one of the most cheering and animating spectacles it is possible to witness. As we see them flocking to the house of God; as we observe them quietly and devoutly taking their seats; as we look down from the pulpit upon their anxious and interesting countenances while listening to the exposition of Christian truth; as we do this we augur well for their spiritual advancement, and we are cheered and comforted by the persuasion that our labours as ministers of the gospel are not in vain in the Lord.

"But the service comes to a close; the benediction is pronounced; the minister vacates the sacred desk; and the people leave the house in which they have been worshipping. And, then, alas! our hearts begin to fail us. What noise is that which we hear almost upon the threshold? What a clatter of tongues!—almost like the confusion of Babel! What loud talking and laughter! We fear that Solomon would liken it to the 'crackling of thorns:' for he says, 'As the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool!' And what are the topics of their discourse? The sermon? The service? The soul? Alas! no. Too frequently they are nothing more than the health of the body, or the temporal welfare of the family; or worse, they are yams and cocos, bread fruit and plantains, goats and pigs, cattle and horses, houses and lands, markets and wages, taxes and tax papers. And so it happens that the conversation, and mirth, and laughter which take place at our chapel doors, drive out all the devout, and holy, and heavenly affections which the sermon and the service may, under the Divine blessing, have originated.

"Now,

"Now, brethren, we have no admiration of that starched and pharisaic stiffness which, in leaving the house of prayer, cannot unbend to a friendly recognition; we delight in the Christian greeting of brother with brother in tones of Christian affection; and we think the close of a Christian service, at which all have been uniting in worship around the footstool of a common Saviour, a time eminently suited for words of fraternal kindness and affection. But we must deprecate a prevailing practice in many of our congregations, of seizing upon it as a season for noisy salutations and uproarious gossipping about worldly concerns. We believe, brethren, that this is a social habit which tends to chase away the salutary impressions of a religious service, and to destroy those spiritual fruits which may have been produced, and might otherwise have been carried away.

"In connection with this, we may advert to another social habit, which, we have reason to fear, prevails extensively in some districts, especially amongst the young.

"The congregation has concluded its greetings after the mid-day service, and the chapel yard is once more left in silence and in solitude, except it be from the footstep of some worthy deacon, or of some anxious inquirer, or of some troubled believer, who has remained for a season in discourse with 'minister.' But what has become of the numerous groups of young Christians whom we so lately observed? Have they retired quietly one by one to their homes, and shall we find them in the porch of their dwellings, or under the pleasant shade of some spreading tree, poring over their Bibles; seeking to digest in retirement, and in solitary meditation and prayer, the precious truths, to the announcement of which they have been listening? This would be a goodly scene. Such a habit, how eminently adapted would it be to raise the tone of the religious character, and to advance the piety and spirituality of the young professor.

"But alas! brethren, we find too many in different scenes, and pursuing different avocations. They have gone on a journey which they had planned on Saturday. They are walking or riding to some distant village on a visit to friends or relatives. You may meet these young women flaunting on the way, and the young men swaggering along with smoking cigars in their mouths. They reach their destination, and there they spend the evening in idle and frivolous conversation, and return home late at night with wearied bodies and dissipated minds; and it is well, if under the power of temptation, they have not fallen into gross and scandalous sin.

"O, brethren, we fear that in some districts, at least, this desecration of sacred hours by Sunday visiting is often the bane of religion, destroying all spirituality of mind and hindering all religious advancement. Could we witness such habits, as in some Christian associations we have known to be adopted, on the evening of the Lord's day; could we see the Christian father, immediately after public service, conducting his family to his home; could we see him after the needed refreshment had been taken, gathering his wife and little ones around his door, while he, seated in the midst of them, acting as minister of the household; could we see him with his open Bible reading to them the truth of God, or each of his children reading in turn to him; could we see him catechising the family group in the divine knowledge they had acquired; and then could we hear them uniting their voices in family prayer and praise; could we thus observe them cultivating "piety at home," then, brethren, we should have hope for the piety and spirituality of our churches, religion would flourish, and the cause of God would triumph.

"But if, on the contrary, God's day be profaned by devoting a large portion of it to needless journeying, and mere visits of pleasure and of idle gossipping, depend upon it, vital godliness will become extinct, and our church members will be 'clouds without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.'

"3. But not needlessly to multiply illustrations, we may add, that our social habits may influence our personal piety, not only as to its ascendency and general tone, but also as to its purity and sanctity. Christians are called to be saints, *i. e.* persons sacredly set apart to purity of heart and life. Holiness to the Lord enters primarily into the composition of Christian character, and is the essential and all pervading element of true piety. It is that without which religion is a mere name, and the professor of religion a deceiver and a hypocrite.

"Now, of all offences against Christian purity, none are in Scripture censured more strongly than those which are also violations of chastity. The believer is solemnly admonished to 'cleanse himself from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.' And yet what must be said, dear brethren, of many of the social habits and customs still prevalent amongst us? What numbers are annually excluded from the fellowship of the church, and how large a proportion of these for the sin of fornication! while we have reason to fear that multitudes are chargeable with sins of uncleanness which never come under church discipline.

"Now, how does this happen? From whence does such a state of society proceed, that even the church of God should be deluged with its pollutions? We are, indeed, persuaded that if true religion reigned with greater power in all hearts, these abounding abominations would be restrained, and the church be kept comparatively pure. But we have, at the same time, a strong conviction that many of the social habits prevailing amongst us, largely contribute to their existence.

"We make our appeal to those of you who have large experience and most opportunities of observation; and what we ask you, is the effect of those mixed 'gangs' in

which men and women, boys and girls, are worked promiscuously together in the same cane-piece? What is the influence of the loose and negligent manner in which they are too often attired? What is the result of young men and women being allowed, as is sometimes the case, to be sleeping at night about the still and the boiling-house during crop-time? Have fathers and mothers nothing to answer for, in the examples which they set their children, and the deportment which they sometimes exhibit in their presence? Is their behaviour always such, as to inculcate purity and modesty? Are not our old people sometimes especially blameable for setting the young patterns of immodesty and indecency in dress, instead of being patterns of propriety?—What must be said of the influence of domestic arrangements in some families, where there is but one sleeping-room for the household, and the younger and the elder mingle together? What again, in the case of young persons engaged to be married to each other, what must be said of the practice of the young woman washing and cooking for the young man, and waiting upon him, and performing many of the offices of a wife, before she becomes so? And what, once more, must be said of the lightness with which the sin of fornication is treated, especially if the shame of it be eventually covered by marriage, so that married men and women, and church members will attend the weddings of such parties, and discharge the duties of bridesmen and bridesmaids with the same cheerfulness and alacrity as if the previous connection had been ever so honourable.

"Brethren, we verily believe all these social habits are either offences against the Christian law of chastity, or that they tend to its violation! And we have a strong conviction that, until they be reformed, we shall still have to deplore the abounding iniquity which is at once the shame and the curse of the church of Christ in this land!

"4. There are also other social habits which tend most injuriously to affect the integrity and uprightness of religious principle. Religion inculcates the most scrupulous regard to truth and equity. 'Owe no man anything, but to love one another.' 'Let no man defraud his brother in any matter.' 'Walk honestly towards them that are without.' 'Let him that stole, steal no more, but rather let him labour, working with his hands.' These are the injunctions of true religion. A truly consistent Christian man, therefore, is upright in all his dealings, having a supreme regard to the will of God, resolved to maintain a conscience void of offence in the sight of God and man. He would rather cut off a right hand, or pluck out a right eye, than violate these requirements. And yet how much laxity of principle, not to say want of integrity and uprightness, is often observable amongst Christian professors. And who can calculate to what extent many of the social habits prevalent amongst us contribute to it?

"Look, for instance, at some of the habits of trade. You enter a store to make some purchases. To say nothing of divers weights, and divers measures, both of which are alike abomination to the Lord—to say nothing of lying representations as to the quality of goods exposed for sale, and the trickeries which are sometimes perpetrated to increase profits and drive a trade—to say nothing of these things, with some—we hope many—honourable exceptions, what security have you that you shall be dealt with in fairness and honesty? How abominable is the prevailing practice of demanding for articles a price exorbitantly greater than that at which they are intended to be sold! You buy some commodity, not knowing its market value, and are charged double its worth. A gentleman some time ago sent to a respectable store for an article he required, and was charged six times its price in the retail market at home. He sent again for half the quantity of the very same, and the half was charged as much as the whole. Another gentleman goes into a store and sees an article which he needs. He demands its price. It so happens that he had been in trade himself, and was able to read the private marks of the storekeeper. He is asked four or five times its actual cost: and when he offers a smller sum, allowing to the seller a handsome profit, he is solemnly assured that it would be less than he gave for it. The buyer confesses his secret and the merchant is confounded.

"Now, what must be the influence of such trading habits on society? Mutual confidence between the buyer and the seller must be destroyed. Dishonesty on the one side begets dishonesty on the other. A system of overcharging leads to a system of beating down. The merchant tries to overreach his customer, the customer endeavours to outwit the merchant. The seller asks more than he means to take; the buyer offers less than he is willing to give. Principle on the part both of the one and the other is abandoned; and while the seller attempts to extort more than the value of his goods, 'It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer; and when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.' The practice of the storekeeper becomes the practice of the market; the small dealer follows in the wake of the large; and thus the morals and the religion of the whole community are injured.

"5. One word more. Personal religion should be permanent and abiding. It is described in Scripture as a 'well of water springing up into everlasting life;' and as 'incorruptible seed which liveth and abideth for ever:' and we are admonished to be 'stedfast and unmovable,' and to be 'faithful even unto death.' In assuming a profession of religion, therefore, we do not take upon us a vocation, which we are at liberty, at some future time, to lay aside; but one which we are to pursue as long as life shall last. 'No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.'

"Now our social habits may conduce either to our firmness and stability or they may tend to shake our stedfastness. Suppose all our social habits to be under the influence of religious principle—suppose that in all our personal and domestic arrangements we had a supreme regard to its dictates—suppose that in all our social intercourse in all relations

our

our conduct was under its immediate direction; how would our social habits, on the other hand, co-operate to promote our piety. Our religion and our social habits would exert a reflex influence upon each other; and religion forming and improving our social habits, our social habits would confirm, and strengthen, and establish our religious characters. But when our social habits are inimical to personal religion—when, as in some of the illustrations which have been offered, they are at variance with its sanctions and its aims, how inevitably must they result in weakening its power, and in destroying its stability. In the one case social habits fortify the religious character, in the other they lay it open to the assaults of every spiritual foe.

"There is one class of social habits, which appear to us to be eminently calculated to have this latter effect. We live in a rum-producing country, where, therefore, ardent spirits are very accessible to the masses of our people. But, withal, candour compels us to acknowledge that drunkenness is not the crying sin of Jamaica. Some of us have seen more drunkenness in the streets of London in a single week than we have in Jamaica through all the years of our residence in it. Still, drinking habits are very prevalent amongst us. Large potions of rum are daily drunk on the estates during crop time. Rum is kept in many houses as a constant beverage: and to offer a drink of it is regarded as a token of hospitality. Large quantities, we have reason to believe, are consumed in this way; while rum shops are found in every locality, and are seen everywhere to be driving a thriving trade. While, therefore, there is not perhaps a large amount of beastly intoxication there is a vast amount of "drinking;" and numbers, who are not in the habit of getting absolutely and uncontrollably drunk, are in the habit of drinking to such excess as to be under the influence of the intoxicating liquor.

"Now what is the influence of this habit?—The very moment strong drink gets into the head it dethrones the reason; the balance of the mental faculties is overturned; the moral sense is obscured and enfeebled; the passions are left without control; the animal appetites are excited; lust and anger are commonly enkindled; and the man consequently becomes an easy prey to every sin. And hence we believe that, on investigation, strong drink will be found, in numberless instances, to be the primary cause of many of the evils which afflict our churches. A man or woman is excluded for fornication. In numerous instances it was strong drink which either provoked the crime or made them the willing slaves of the destroyer of their chastity and their souls. A quarrel has sprung up between two or more individuals; angry words have been succeeded by blows; the Christian name has been disgraced and dishonoured; and ministers and people have to hang down their heads with shame in the eyes of the world. In what numberless cases strong drink has either originated or stimulated the feud! Sin being committed, and dishonour ensuing upon it, the wretched backslider "makes shipwreck of faith and of a good conscience," and is at "last drowned in perdition."

"But, brethren, we must pause. Our subject is not exhausted; but we have already extended this letter to too great length: and we fear have wearied out your patience. And yet there are some other points of personal religion in connexion with which we should like to have illustrated the power of social habits; and there are some other social habits, in particular, to which it might have been useful to advert; such, for example, as the practice of husbands and wives keeping up a separate interest, having two pockets and two cupboards; the want of courtesy and attention to each other on the part of husband and wife, seen, for instance, in the rude and disrespectful manner in which they will speak to one another, in their walking alone to public worship, or one on before another instead of together, and occupying different seats in the house of God, instead of side by side; the harsh and cruel treatment of children, allowing them at one time to roam wild and without restraint, and at another punishing them with greater severity than you would your dogs or horses; the want of truthfulness in the common intercourse of life, and the practice of lying and deceiving, whenever an end is to be answered by it; the habit, again, of covering up gross and crying sins until a quarrel provokes a disclosure; the habit of setting so little value upon time as to squander away hours and days in trifling and idleness; and the prevailing practice, with numbers, of attending public worship only on preaching or ordinance Sundays, so that they are not seen in the house of prayer more than once a fortnight or once a month. All these are habits most baneful in their tendency, and we should have been glad of the opportunity to dwell upon them. But for the present we must leave them.

"Enough, however, has been said to elucidate the connection between social habits and religious character; and, in doing this, to show how on the one hand our personal religion should influence our social habits, and, on the other hand, how our social habits influence our personal religion.

"Some of these habits, it is indeed most painful and humiliating to contemplate. We might possibly, in some cases, have selected for illustration others of a pleasing character; and that we have not always done so you may be assured has arisen from no desire to hold up to view the deformities of our social system, but from a simple, earnest, and affectionate purpose, as your ministers, to adopt that course which seemed most likely to advance your highest interests. We are not accustomed to address you in the 'enticing words of man's wisdom,' but with 'great plainness of speech.' Our office is not to flatter, but to instruct and improve; and, when necessary, to 'reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.' It is ours, as the ambassadors of Christ, to 'declare the whole counsel of God, whether men will hear, or whether they will forbear.' And hence, on this occasion, we have endeavoured to write with all boldness and fidelity.

"And now, in conclusion, we are most anxious to impress upon you the practical importance of the subject, which we hereby submit to your solemn and prayerful consideration. Do you desire to advance in a life of personal piety? Are you forgetting the things that are behind, and reaching forward to those which are before, pressing toward the mark for the prize of your high calling of God in Christ Jesus? Your social habits may either facilitate your Christian progress, or they may prove your worst impediments in running the race set before you. Are you desirous of living, not only for yourself, but for the spiritual and eternal well-being of those around you? Do you wish to be instrumental of good to others?"

READ at the Half-yearly Meeting of the Trelawney Association of Baptist Churches.

"THE IMPORTANCE of SUITABLE DWELLINGS to the CULTIVATION of FAMILY RELIGION, by *D. J. East*, Calabar Institution, Jamaica.

"The following Tract was prepared at the request of the Ministers and Delegates of the Trelawny Association of Baptist Churches, with a view to the discussion of the subject at its half-yearly meeting, held in April of the present year. The paper having accordingly been read and discussed, a resolution was unanimously passed, requesting the writer to print it for the use of the Association, and for general circulation.

"THE IMPORTANCE of SUITABLE DWELLINGS to the CULTIVATION of FAMILY RELIGION.

"AT a meeting of Christian ministers and other church-officers, held in the month of March 1862, some present were startled to hear one of their number say that, in his judgment, family religion was next to impossible, until people provided themselves with more suitable dwellings. And the concern was still more increased by the fact, that the testimonies which followed were painfully corroborative of this sad opinion.

"The habitations of many of the members of our churches are, no doubt, all that could be desired. We know of some eminently creditable to their social progress, with almost all the accommodations suitable to family requirements. Some we have visited, for style of structure, for decoration, for cleanliness, and for furniture, might be pointed to as model cottages, indicative of thrift and industry, of good taste, and of material prosperity. The owners of such dwellings are usually the fathers of families that promise to take a position in life in advance of their parents, who generally show a disposition to give their children an education in accordance with the comforts amid which they are brought up: and they have their reward. It is in such homes, doubtless, if anywhere, that family religion flourishes. Such families are the nurseries of the churches, and supply our congregations with the most intelligent members, and our Sunday Schools with the best instructed and most useful teachers. God grant that the number may be multiplied a thousand-fold.

"But while we rejoice in many such homes, we fear it is only too true that the dwellings of too many are anything but what they ought to be.

"It may, perhaps, help our consideration of the subject, if we can, first of all, settle in our minds what the habitation of a Christian family should be.

"1. And in the first place, it should obviously be suitable to the social position of its inmates. In society there are various grades. Just as God has made the physical world, so has He constituted society among men. All trees are not of one uniform height: all mountains do not rise to the same elevation. Variety is the order of creation. And so it has always been in the social condition of mankind. Men differ in wealth and education, in rank and office. And the religion of Jesus Christ teaches us not to despise, but to respect such distinctions. What may be suitable to one of them may be totally unsuited to another. The prince may require a palace, the peasant may be well contented with a cottage. And if the man who has to earn his daily bread should try to build a house in style and dimensions like the mansion of the man who has the command of a princely fortune, he would not only be attempting what would be impossible to his means, but what would make him supremely ridiculous in the eyes of all sensible persons, as doing that which would be unbecoming his condition.

"2. It is also obvious to remark, that his house should be suitable to the requirements of his family, as to numbers, age, and sex. The newly-married pair do not at first require accommodations as large as they will need when God as multiplied the olive branches around their table. A labouring man, on marrying, might be content to have a house containing three rooms,—a hall, a sleeping-room, and a sleeping-room for strangers. For want of the latter, we have heard of the indecency of young married persons allowing visitors to lie down at night in the same room as themselves: and we have known of the most debasing forms of wickedness as the consequence. In no case, therefore, do we think, should a family dwelling, however small the family may be, be provided with fewer than three rooms.

"But, as the family increases, surely it need not be said the dwelling should be enlarged, During the early months, in the infancy of a young family, this may be of little consequence.

quence. But, if modesty and virtue are to be cultivated, children need at a very early age to be provided with a sleeping-room entirely separate from that of their parents. Children have keen eyes and quick ears: and very little escapes their observation. A look, a gesture is noted. And scarcely any intercourse between husband and wife, which would be thought unseemly before the whole world, can be safely allowed in the presence even of very young children. Ideas and impressions may be conveyed to the mind, which, however little they may be thought of at the time, will, in after years, prove seeds of corruption, and supply food to a depraved imagination, or minister fuel to the fires of soul-destroying lusts. As soon, therefore, as it becomes safe for children at night to be removed from the mother's care, it becomes necessary that another room should be added to the family dwelling.

"And what, as years glide on, and the family consists of both sexes? We have been shocked to hear of houses, and we have seen many such, in which, for lack of accommodation, sons and daughters growing up towards the age of young men and women, have had to lie down together at night on mats spread on the same floor in the same room. Does this comport with modesty and decency, to use no stronger terms? And in such cases we have been told that these young people will occasionally bring in strangers as visitors, obliged by stress of weather, or some other cause, to stay the night, who will lie down upon the same boards in the common family room. Can this be right in the sight either of God or man? Surely such a habitation is unsuited to the requirements of such a family! And every law of decency and morality demands that, apart from the sleeping-room of the parents, there should be one separate sleeping-room for boys, and another for girls. Thus it would appear that, in every dwelling occupied by a family advancing towards mature age, there should be at least three sleeping-rooms besides a hall. If family circumstances will allow of a fourth, for the accommodation of visitors, so much the better. If not, they should either never be entertained for the night, or the utmost care should be taken that the laws of modesty are not violated.

"3. It is scarcely less obvious to add, that, to be suitable, a dwelling should be constituted with a view to health and cleanliness. In some districts are to be seen habitations for men and women in which the enjoyment of health is almost a miracle, and where cleanliness is impossible. The floor is the bare ground, not even levelled; or if it ever had been levelled, it has been again worked up into holes of irregular form and size. Here chigoes abound, and all manner of filth accumulates, and the consequence is a foul smell, enough almost to poison the inmates. The walls, moreover, have never been plastered; and dirt and dust cover them. Of course, limewash—that sweetener of human habitations and general destroyer of small vermin—such dwellings are quite innocent of this. And then the doors and windows are so small, that you have almost to grope in them for lack of light, while the fresh air of heaven cannot well get into them to ventilate and purify their atmosphere. To be clean in such dwellings is out of all question. And the appearance of children you see creeping out of such habitations, if there be nothing else, well assures you of the fact. From constitutional strength, and from having to work much in the open air, the health of grown-up people may defy the health-destroying influences of such places of abode. But there is no doubt that our infant population annually suffers great loss from being confined in such habitations:—the tender lungs of children cannot resist the destructive influence of the poisonous air they have to breathe. For habitations to be suitable to their purpose, therefore, they must be the opposite of such as these. The floors should, if possible, be boarded; but where this cannot be, they should be well 'terraced,' and the terracing should be kept in good repair: the walls should be plastered, and never a year should pass away without their being limewashed or coloured: and the windows and doors should be large enough to let in full supplies of light and air. We might also add how desirable it is, especially in small rooms, that some of them should be kept open by night as well as by day.

"4. I will only add, that for a dwelling to be suitable for its uses, it should be provided with suitable out-offices. It is difficult,—hardly delicate,—to speak of some requirements of a house, the necessity of which modesty and decency might suggest, but which, I have been told by well-informed persons, are rarely attached to the dwelling of a labouring man in Jamaica. The convenience of a kitchen no housewife will dispute. And this is necessary, not only as a convenience, but also for cleanliness: as otherwise much must be done within the dwelling which will inevitably create dirt and discomfort.

"Nor let any one say that it is impossible, in the large majority of cases, for our church-members to provide themselves with such habitations as these—at least in the country districts, and where they have land of their own, especially in the mountains. In no country in the world are building materials more abundant than in Jamaica. The districts are few in which limestone may not be had for quarrying it out; and in most it may be obtained with little labour: in some it may be picked up in pieces suitable at any rate for Spanish walling. Wood is usually as available as stone: and where wood and limestone are abundant, lime is only a question of labour. There is much land from which timber suitable for building may be honestly had for the cutting. And where this is not the case, posts of hard wood are to be bought at a trifling sum. In some localities they may easily be had at from 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* per post. At the end of this little book a plan will be found of a labouring man's cottage, and an estimate of its cost. This will be seen to be by no means considerable. The money frequently wasted by young people on dress and feasting at their weddings would go a good way towards erecting a decent house. In fact, the whole question of house-building amongst us resolves itself to a large extent in thrift, industry, and perseverance. There are few men who know how to economize their means, who are indus-

trious in their habits, and energetic and persevering in their character, who may not provide themselves with such a dwelling as has been spoken of as indispensable, and even with a home equal to those which have been referred to as models. And we feel sure, as the importance of the subject is felt, the difficulties in the way of realizing a better state of things in this respect will vanish.

"The importance of having suitable dwellings is great on numerous grounds. We are specially invited to consider it in relation to one—the cultivation of family religion.

"Religion is a personal thing:—the reign of God in the heart, beginning in the exercises of repentance and faith, and carried out in a life of holiness, to be consummated in the glory and blessedness of Heaven. But supposing the head of a family to be himself under the power of personal religion, he will exert a religious influence over his household, and feel impelled by the most sacred obligations to bring each member of it under the government of the self-same principles which have the rule in his own mind. It will be his constant aim to promote, in wife, and children, and servants, that godliness which in his own breast has gained the uppermost place. And as, where true religion exists at all, it reigns supreme, this aim will be the grand, moving, all-prevailing and all-pervading principle of his family government. All else will be made to bow to it. The promotion of the piety of each member of the domestic circle will over-rule and over-ride all other considerations. The daily arrangements of the household will be accommodated to this first principle of its constitution. All other duties and claims will be regulated and adjusted with a view to this. Just as, in a watch, all its parts are put together, accommodated the one to the other, and the movements of the whole regulated with a view to the one purpose of keeping correct time; so, in such a family, everything pertaining to it will be ordered so as to secure the one infinitely momentous object—the promotion of piety towards God in each and every member of it. With this view, therefore, whatever means tend to the advancement of the faith, and hope, and love of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, will be conscientiously and unremittingly employed. In a family so constituted, the Sacred Scriptures will be daily read: and, if possible, morning and evening, but at least once a day, father and mother, and children and servants, will be seen bowing the knee together in the exercises of prayer and praise. The heads of such a family will be using constant endeavours to draw the minds of those committed to them to the claims of the God and Father of all, through the mediating love of Him who died for our sins and rose again. And they will be as anxious to preserve the loved ones around them from whatever would lead them away from the paths of piety and peace. You will see them, therefore, not only directing all the influences of home to the supreme desire of their hearts, but ordering the affairs of the house in such sort as that every possible religious privilege may be enjoyed by their children and dependents, not only at home but abroad. This will be especially observable on the Lord's day, when the great congregation is gathered for public worship. The holy services of that day will be anticipated in the arrangements of the week. The clothing of the family will be washed up and got ready in time for Sunday wear. Saturday will be always a day of Sabbath preparation, when the house will be made ready by cleansing and polish for the quiet and hallowed enjoyments of the day of God. And when the Lord's day returns, it will be spent, not in idleness, or in feasting, or in visiting, or in frivolous conversation, but in diligent and devout attendance on the public means of grace. The Sabbath evening especially will be a season of family religious enjoyment, in which, at times, the blessedness of heaven will be antedated. We have known of Christian families in which this has been a perfectly truthful picture. Could you have entered their habitations, you would have seen the whole household grouped around the table. There would be the father, perhaps growing hoary with age, with the large family Bible spread open before him, and near by his side the loving wife, the joyful mother of his children, her heart beating in sympathy with every pulsation of his for the spiritual welfare of the dear ones whom God has given to them. The children, too, and those who serve in the family, have their open Bibles in their hands; and together they read the Book of God. And now their voices sweetly unite in songs of thanksgiving and praise; or perhaps the father expounds some brief portion of the Divine Word, or the younger members recite the sacred texts or hymns which have been committed to memory during the week. And then the knee is bowed;—all are prostrate at the mercy-seat; and from glowing hearts the fervid supplications led by the family priest, in the good old patriarchal sense, ascend like incense of a sweet-smelling savour through the one and only Mediator to the throne of grace. This is family religion; nor is it possible to think of it without at once feeling how important suitable dwellings must be to its cultivation.

"1. How, in the first place, can the means of its cultivation be properly observed, if the dwelling be unsuited to family accommodation? If morning and evening worship are to be decently attended to, accompanied by the reading of the Scriptures, there must be a room in which the several members of the household may be assembled. There should be seats on which they may sit down in quiet, a table on which the family Bible may be spread, and a floor on which it may be decent to kneel down. We do not say that family prayer may not be engaged in under any circumstances; but unless some such house accommodations are provided, it cannot be attended to advantageously. And the want of them will sooner or later prove so discouraging as to lead to its entire or partial neglect.

"2. In an ill-provided dwelling, where the rooms are inadequate to the purposes of human habitation, family order is next to impossible. If, for example, the family room by day be the sleeping-room for some members of the household by night, arrangements which order and propriety would dictate, especially in the morning and at eventide, must be disturbed and

and broken in upon by the arrangements of each returning night. In such a house the breakfast and supper can hardly be taken together by husband, wife, and children, at one common table, as it should be; but one will be eating his mess here and another there; and that important bond of unity, the family meal, will be wanting. But in the cultivation of family religion order is a primary law. It is so in religion itself. And without order, is it likely that there will be regularity in presenting on the domestic altar the daily sacrifice of prayer and praise? With mats spread about upon the floor, or one sleeping child lying here and another there, what comfort will there be in which for a household to bow the knee together in the evening? And amid the confusion which such a room would probably present in the morning, would it be very surprising if the father should be tempted to leave his dwelling and go out to his daily labour without calling his family together at all?

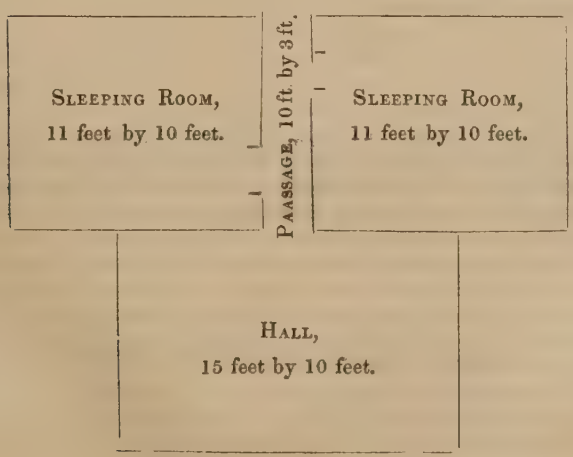
3. "Besides, in such a state of things how ill-fitted must be the minds of all for religious exercises? Little things mostly make up the sum of human life. And it is surprising how powerfully the mind is influenced by a collection of circumstances which, taken one by one, would not be of hardly any moment. This is often the case when we are least aware of it. We may not know it, and yet the foul air of a close crowded room may be souring our tempers, or sinking our spirits, and unfitting us for every holy exercise. And the innumerable little and unmentionable discomforts of a dwelling in which men and women are herded together, instead of being decently distributed and properly provided with decent accommodations, may be daily sapping the foundations of family peace. One will be fretful and complaining; some will grow quarrelsome; all will be more or less jostling against each other, being all in each other's way. And the love and harmony which should prevail between husband and wife, and brothers and sisters, will have little place. How should family religion flourish in such an atmosphere?

"4. And if the house be like some which have been spoken of, in which distinctions of age and sex have little or no respect,—in which father and mother and growing-up sons and daughters lie down to sleep together almost promiscuously,—then there can be no exaggeration in saying family religion is impossible. Religion and morality are inseparable. And to talk of religion in a household where the first laws of modesty, and decency, and morals, are set at naught, is a confusion of thought and contradiction of terms not for a moment to be tolerated. And in such families we see that family religion has no place. The sons usually grow up lawless, disobedient to parents, and wanting in almost every element of goodness; and the daughters to dishonour their sex and people the land with bastard children. How should it be otherwise? Modesty and shamefacedness is at once the chief charm of female character, and the main defence of female virtue. A woman without modesty may make a harlot; she is hardly fit to become a wife. And yet where families are crowded in such dwellings, the sentiment of modesty, in either young men or maidens, can never have been known. In such associations family religion has no place.

"5. But enough; I might add much more. Sufficient, however, has been said to show how important are suitable dwellings to the cultivation of family religion. We cannot think without admiration of the families in which its influences are fully felt, and the means of its cultivation are diligently observed. But in order to the multiplication of such families in the land, there must be a wonderful reformation in the structure of the houses of our people. The work of improvement has been begun. It has already made cheering progress; and we believe that if only those who are the leaders and framers of public opinion, and especially ministers of the Gospel and Christian teachers, with our deacons and leaders, have the fidelity and zeal which the times demand, faith and patience will in due season, in this, as in other respects, meet with their reward.

"*Ground Plan of a Cottage.—No.* 1.

Scale, $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to 1 foot.

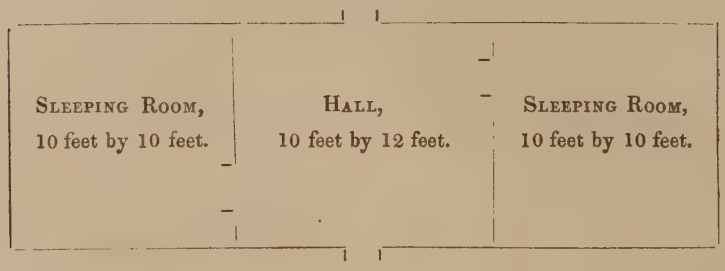


"ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST OF No. 1.*

		£.	s.	d.
43	Posts for uprights	2	3	–
12	„ for plates	–	12	–
44	Rafters	–	16	6
700	Feet W. P. boards, for flooring, lathing, and jalousies	7	–	–
15	Barrels of lime	1	10	–
	Limestone and marl	3	–	–
20	Joists	1	–	–
4	Doors	2	–	–
3,000	Shingles	7	4	–
50	Lbs. nails	1	17	6
	Carpentry	12	–	–
	Masonry and plastering	5	–	–
		£. 44	3	–"

"*Ground Plan of a Cottage.—No. 2.*

"Scale, $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to 1 foot.



"ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST OF No. 2.*

		£.	s.	d.
36	Posts for uprights	1	16	–
10	„ for plates	–	10	–
32	Rafters	–	12	–
600	Feet W. P. boards, for flooring, lathing, and jalousies	6	–	–
12	Barrels of lime	1	4	–
15	Joists	–	15	–
	Limestone and marl	2	10	–
4	Doors	2	–	–
2,500	Shingles	6	–	–
30	Lbs. nails	1	2	6
	Carpentry	10	–	–
	Masonry and plastering	5	–	–
		£. 37	9	6"

* This, in most districts, would be the probable cost where all the materials would have to be bought and the labour would have to be paid for. But, in many cases, the land on which the house was to be built would supply the lumber, the stone, the marl, or "dirt," and the materials for making lime. This would reduce the cost in money of the first estimate to 38 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, and of the second to 34 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.*

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE delivered at the Court House, *Montego Bay*, on the formation of the ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY of INDUSTRY and ARTS, by the Rev. *Walter Dendy*, Hon. Sec., 19 November 1856.

S. G. CORINALDI, ESQ., V.P., IN THE CHAIR.

"IN compliance with the request of the Council of the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts, I appear before you this evening with the hope of enlisting your sympathies and securing your cordial support and co-operation in the objects for which the society was established.

"Societies like the present arise out of the developments of civilisation, education, manufactures, or commerce; for man in a state of civilisation is eminently a social being, and in such a state learns to have confidence in his fellow, finding that by association and co-operation that can be accomplished which would be impossible to a single individual. Hence you may judge of the progress of the civilisation of a country by the number of its substantial buildings for public purposes, by its good roads and convenient bridges, by the ships that are built or freighted with produce for foreign shores, and which return heavily laden with such things as add to the comfort and convenience of life, by the machines that are made or introduced to lessen the necessity of manual labour, by the schools and colleges, by the associations for the promotion of literature and science, and by the industry and social habits of the people.

"Great changes, social and political, have recently taken place in this colony, and we have, as it were, to begin anew, by laying the foundation for the future prosperity of the island. The Royal Society of Arts, the Hanover Society of Industry, and our own society, will, we hope, if followed out with spirit and perseverance, be productive of good, and that, as iron brighteneth iron, so the intercourse that must result in the carrying on of these institutions, will develop latent talent, call into existence industrious exertion, advance civilisation in the island, and promote the social welfare of all classes of its inhabitants.

"Where any new society is formed it is very natural to make the inquiry, 'What is its object, and what does it design to accomplish?' We live in an eminently practical age, and but few are disposed to pursue an object merely for the acquisition of knowledge. If the road to wealth is opened, hundreds and thousands will leave the land of their nativity, brave the dangers of the sea, and the greater difficulties of land travelling, to arrive at the diggings of California or Australia; others will embark in speculations of commerce, buying and selling, and getting gain; while some will be enthusiastic in their professions, and, though much study is a weariness to the flesh, will toil day and night to reach the object of their ambition and obtain an honourable distinction among their fellow-men.

"We shall endeavour to show the utility of the cultivation of science and art, the importance of persevering habits in the acquisition of knowledge and its application to useful purposes.

"Science has been defined to be the regular development of any branch of knowledge; it perfects genius and moderates those ebullitions of fancy which are apt to overstep the bounds of reason. The difference between science and art is, that the first is speculative and the second mechanical. Science plans, and art performs.

"We will just glance at some of the arts and sciences that are every day brought under our notice, and which in many cases are so common that they cease to be regarded with any interest; for instance, the art of writing, the utility of which needs not to be enlarged upon: 'Without its aid the experience of each generation would have been almost entirely lost to succeeding ages, and only a faint glimmer of truth could have been discerned through the mists of tradition.' So accustomed are we to the art that we do not reflect how dependent we are upon it; but to those who become acquainted with it for the first time it is an astonishing acquirement. Strange tales are told of slaves who have been entrusted with a basket of fruit and other things to carry to a distance, who having purloined a portion on the road, have had their peculations revealed by the written paper that accompanied them; that on a second occasion, in order to prevent 'paper telling lie upon them,' a stone sufficiently great was placed upon the paper, so that it should not see the hand abstracting from the basket what the eye saw and the heart coveted, but that even this precaution was unavailing, the paper was sharp enough to see through the stone.

"Williams, a missionary to the South Sea Islands, relates in his Narrative (page 32), a circumstance which will give a striking idea of the feelings of an untaught people when observing for the first time the effects of written communication:—'As I had come to the work one morning without my square, I took up a chip, and with a piece of charcoal wrote upon it a request that Mrs. Williams would send me that article. I called a chief who was superintending his portion of the work, and said to him, "'Friend, take this; go to our house, and give it to Mrs. Williams.'" He was a singular-looking man, remarkably quick in his movements, and had been a great warrior, but in one of the numerous battles he had fought had lost an eye. Giving me an inexpressible look with the other, he said, "'Take that! She will call me a fool, and scold me, if I carry a chip to her.'" "'No,'" I

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
7 January 1863.

(No. 532.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 7 January 1863.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 122,* of the 3d of December, enclosing a letter from Mr. Clyne upon the subject of the dismissal of Mr. Gordon from the commission of the peace.

You will be pleased to inform Mr. Clyne that I have received his letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Lieutenant Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

* Page 35.

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
The Duke of Newcastle, K.G., to Lieut. Governor Eyre.
9 January 1863.

(No. 535.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*, K. G., to Lieutenant Governor *Eyre*.

Sir, Downing-street, 9 January 1863.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 121,* of the 3d December, forwarding a letter addressed to me by Mr. G. W. Gordon on the subject of his removal from the commission of the peace.

I think that Mr. Gordon is entitled to be made acquainted with the precise grounds on which I proceeded in sanctioning his dismissal from the magistracy; and with this view I have to instruct you to furnish him with a copy of my Despatch, No. 490,† of the 5th of September.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Lieutenant Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

* Page 34.

† Page 37.

JAMAICA.

COPY of the CORRESPONDENCE in relation to the REMOVAL of Mr. G. W. GORDON from the Magistracy in *Jamaica*, and the Circumstances connected with the Morant Bay Lock-up Case.

(*Mr. Thomas Potter.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
5 *March* 1866.

Under 8 *oz.*

JAMAICA

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 26 June 1866;—*for*,

"COPIES of a LETTER from Dr. *Underhill*, dated the 12th day of February 1866, in reply to a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre*, dated the 1st day of January 1866:"

"Of a MEMORIAL of the Missionaries of the Jamaica Baptist Union, dated the 22nd day of March 1866, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies:"

"And, COPY or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of *Jamaica*, respecting the LETTER and MEMORIAL above mentioned."

Colonial Office,
28 June 1866.

W. E. FORSTER.

(*Sir Morton Peto.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
29 *June* 1866.

SCHEDULE.

Number in Series.	From whom.	Number and Date.	Subject.	Page.
1	Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.	6 Feb. 1866	Forwarding copy of a Despatch addressed to the Governor of Jamaica respecting the publication in the Colony of Dr. Underhill's Letter of the 5th January 1865.	3
2	E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	12 Feb. 1866	In reply to the above - - - - -	3
3	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	22 Feb. 1866 No. 84.	Forwarding copies of the above Correspondence -	7
4	The Rev. F. Trestrail to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	23 Feb. 1866	In support of Dr. Underhill's reply to the allegations contained in Governor Eyre's Despatch of the 1st January 1866.	7
5	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	1 March 1866 No. 95.	Enclosing copy of the above Letter and directing that it should be communicated to Governor Eyre.	9
6	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	4 April 1866. No. 81.	Transmitting a Despatch from Governor Eyre in reply to Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, No. 84, of the 22nd February 1866.	9
7	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	10 May 1866 No. 147.	Acknowledging the above Despatch - - -	13
8	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	23 April 1866 No. 98.	Transmitting Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.	13
9	Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.	9 May 1866 No. 109.	Transmitting Despatch from Governor Eyre with his Observations on the Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union.	54
10	The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.	21 June 1866. No. 177.	Acknowledging the above Despatches, Nos. 98 and 109.	58

COPIES of a LETTER from Dr. *Underhill*, dated the 12th day of February, 1866, in reply to a DESPATCH from Governor *Eyre*, dated the 1st day of January 1866:—Of a memorial of the Missionaries of the Jamaica Baptist Union, dated the 22nd day of March 1866, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies:—And, COPY or EXTRACTS of any CORRESPONDENCE between Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governor of *Jamaica*, respecting the LETTER and MEMORIAL above mentioned.

— No. 1. —

No. 1.
Sir F. Rogers, Bart., to E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.
6 February 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart., to *E. B. Underhill*, Esq., LL.D.

Sir, Downing-street, 6 February 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to transmit to you herewith the enclosed copy of a despatch* which he addressed to the Governor of Jamaica, respecting the publication in the Colony of your letter to Mr. Cardwell, of 5th January 1865, together with copy of the answer† which has been received from Governor Eyre on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

— No. 2. —

No. 2.
E. B. Underhill, LL.D., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
12 February 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from *E. B. Underhill*, LL.D, to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., &c. &c.

2, John-street, Bedford-row, London,
Sir, 12 February 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing a copy of your despatch of the 1st December 1865, No. 348,‡ to Governor Eyre, with his Excellency's answer thereto, dated 1st January 1866, No. 1,§ having reference to the publication in Jamaica of my letter of the 5th January 1865.‖

The reply of Governor Eyre embraces two distinct subjects: first the publication of my letter in Jamaica; and, second, the circumstances under which the letter became the cause of political agitation. On each of these topics I beg permission to make some observations:

1. While I most readily accept and believe his Excellency's assertion that my letter was not published in Jamaica with his sanction or knowledge, it is due to myself to say that, until its appearance in the "Times" newspaper of the 20th November last, the letter had not, with my sanction, been published either in this

* No. 348, of 1 December 1865, *vide* Papers presented Feb. 1866; Disturbances, Part I., p. 243.
† No. 1, of 1 January 1866, *vide* Papers presented Feb. 1866; Disturbances, Part III., p. 3.
‡ *Vide* Papers presented; Disturbances, Part I., page 243.
Vide Papers presented; Disturbances, Part III., page 3.
‖ *Vide* Papers presented on Affairs of Jamaica, February 1866, page 1.

this country or in Jamaica. In Jamaica it was known to my friends and correspondents solely through the circular of Governor Eyre, or from newspapers to which that circular had been communicated.

2. Governor Eyre further corrects a statement of mine in the "Times" newspaper, that the letter was published in the "Island Gazette." In saying this I was misled by a private letter, and on discovering the error I was careful not to repeat the statement in the prefatory remarks of the pamphlet I afterwards published.

3. For the notoriety the letter acquired in Jamaica His Excellency accounts by saying that "considering the number of persons to whom Dr. Underhill's letter was made known, the majority of whom are in no way under the control of the Government, it is not surprising that the letter soon found its way into the public prints."

4. From the papers on the affairs of Jamaica just laid before Parliament, it appears that the Governor issued his circular to the custodes on the 13th March. A few days after there appeared in the "Jamaica Guardian," not only copies of your despatch and my letter, but a copy of one of the circulars issued to the custodes. It is, therefore, certain that although his Excellency did not publish the letter, it was forwarded to a newspaper by a custos (un-named) to whom this circular had been addressed, and who, as a custos of the island, was under his Excellency's control.

5. The Governor further says, that the publication "unavoidably resulted from Dr. Underhill having written such a letter officially to the Secretary of State, and the steps which it became necessary to take to test the accuracy of his allegations or otherwise." It is sufficient to say, in reply, that whether I wrote the letter officially or as a private persor, his Excellency adopted no precautions whatever to prevent its publication, and that the steps he took to test the accuracy of its allegations were those deemed necessary by himself, and taken on his own responsibility.

6. The second portion of Governor Eyre's despatch requires a more prolonged examination. His Excellency first affirms that the letter became the cause of political agitation, from the desire of the Baptists to back up its statements as far as they could, and this desire was enhanced and stimulated because it soon became evident that the veracity of its assertions was impugned by the public press, by many persons of position and influence, and by some of the Baptists themselves.

7. Admitting that the parties referred to did impugn the accuracy of the statements of the letter (with the exception that only one Baptist minister did so, for reasons it is unnecessary to give), whether the motives attributed by his Excellency to the Baptist ministers really actuated them, will best be decided by the instances Governor Eyre proceeds to offer in proof. "Public meetings," he continues, "were got up in many parishes, mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting or professing to act in connection with them; and Baptist ministers in many instances took a prominent part at such meetings, addressing the mob, and joining in resolutions, adopting entirely, and vouching for the correctness of Dr. Underhill's allegations."

8. It is not necessary that I should vindicate the constitutional right of Baptist ministers, in common with all others of their fellow subjects, to meet in public assembly to discuss political affairs, and to lay before our Gracious Sovereign the grievances under which they conceive themselves to suffer. That Governor Eyre should speak of these assemblies, presided over, in some instances, by the chief magistrate of the district, and consisting of all classes of the community, as a "mob," appears to me most unseemly in a representative of the Crown, and especially so when it is remembered that in nearly every instance resolutions of loyalty to the Sovereign were unanimously adopted, and the proceedings of the meetings were directed to be sent to Her Majesty, through the regular official channels.

9. But that Baptist ministers were particularly active in getting up the public meetings in question, is an allegation which I must venture to contradict. As if in anticipation of such a statement, I have been furnished by Rev. D. J. East, President

President of the Calabar Institution, with the following facts, in a letter dated 16th November 1865. He writes as follows:

"Public meetings to consider your letter have hardly, in a single instance, been called by Baptist missionaries. In the parish of Trelawny, in which there are seven Baptist ministers, with nearly 4,000 church members, no meeting whatever was convened, except a small one by a pastor with his own people. In St. Ann's, in which there are six Baptist ministers, and upwards of 3,500 members, a public meeting was convened, but Baptist ministers unanimously refused to take part in it, and were never consulted, and did not sign the requisition in accordance with which the custos called it. Nor had Baptist ministers any hand whatever in the memorial from St. Ann's, to which Mr. Cardwell replied in the famous despatch, headed 'The Queen's Advice.' At Lucea, the pastor of the Baptist Church was in England, and no Baptist minister whatever had anything to do in getting up the meeting held there. At Spanish Town the meeting was held independently of Baptist missionaries, nor did any Baptist missionary take part in it. At the Kingston meeting, only one Baptist minister was present, and he was not a European. No Baptist minister took part in the meeting held at Vere. At the Savanna-la-Mar and Port Maria meetings, there was a Baptist minister at each. The meeting at Montego Bay was convened, not by Baptist missionaries, but by a parish requisition, numerously signed by all classes; and it was addressed by a member of the Assembly, who read a letter expressive of the views of two of the most estimable and wealthy planters of Trelawny. Out of the 21 parishes in which regular Baptish missionaries labour, only in 11 have public meetings been held; and out of 36 recognised Baptist ministers, only seven Europeans and four natives have taken any part whatever. At the same time, it is a fact that the class of meetings referred to have been attended and participated in, and in most cases addressed by three clergymen of the Church of England, two Wesleyan ministers, three Presbyterian ministers, and one Secession Methodist minister."

10. As a further proof in how very small a degree either Baptist ministers or individuals connected with them have had a share in the recent events, I may adduce the following facts supplied by Rev. J. M. Phillippo, of Spanish Town, one of the oldest missionaries and residents in the island. With great pains he has collected a list of more than 70 persons arrested during the prevalence of martial law, as suspected of complicity with the riot at Morant Bay; giving their names, their callings, the charges made against them, and their religious profession. The result is as follows: "There were arrested three Baptists, natives, connected with the Baptist ministers of the island, two of whom were immediately released as having not the remotest connection with the riot; three native Baptists, three Jews, one native Wesleyan, one United Methodist, one Independent, one member of the Scotch Kirk, 26 members of the Church of England, 30 and upwards Roman Catholics. It thus appears that in proportion to their numbers, the Baptist ministers and their people have had the least to do with recent events, and that the singling them out by Governor Eyre, for special reproach, is utterly unjust.

11. His Excellency, in the second place, proceeds to say that "one of the great objects for which the Baptists, in common with other Dissenting bodies, are striving, is the abolition of any State Church, and it suited their views and purposes to expatiate on the text put forward by Dr. Underhill, that the people were unjustly taxed."

12. It is no new thing that Baptists should express themselves as opposed to the existence of a State Church. For nearly 300 years their protest has been recorded against a system that they deem injurious to religion, and contrary to the commands of Christ. Nor, on suitable occasions, have they, in this respect, been unfaithful to their convictions, since they have laboured for the elevation and religious instruction of the people of Jamaica. Let this be said to their honour, that they have taxed no dissident for the maintenance of the institutions they have established. If they have done aught for the benefit of their fellow men in Jamaica, it has been done from their own spontaneous liberality; but the insinuation of Governor Eyre is peculiarly unjust, as applicable to the present occasion. I have carefully gone over the resolutions of all the public meetings,

11 in number, in my possession, and in one only is there the slightest allusion to the oppressive taxation entailed by the payment of the clergy of the Established Church out of the annual revenue of the island.

13. But if the Baptist ministers, and the movers of the resolutions of these public meetings, had insisted on the burdensomeness and injustice of the Established Church in Jamaica, they would only have echoed the words of Governor Eyre himself. In a despatch, written on the 20th of June last, when these meetings were being held, his Excellency thus speaks: "In the case of the Established Church there can be no question but that the cost of this establishment is large in proportion to the revenue, or to the more general expenditure. It is also at variance with the principles or system which prevail in the more recently formed Colonies."

This is his Excellency's approving comment on an opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Ker, enclosed in the despatch, that "the present ecclesiastical establishment is out of all proportion to the actual resources of the Colony, and to the other subjects of expenditure; I think a reduction should take place at the first opportunity." Permit me to express my hope that in the new arrangements about to be made for the Government of the island, this recommendation will be carried out by Her Majesty's Government.

14. In the third place, Governor Eyre states that the letter became the cause of political agitation by its statements inducing an easily excitable people to believe that the grievances set forth were real, whereas they were purely imaginary, and so being "stirred up into the belief of imaginary wrongs and grievances, they began to think how they could redress or revenge them." To refute this statement would be to enter on the wide question of the condition of the people, and into a consideration of the working of the laws and institutions of the island. It is enough here to say that the grievances set out in the letter were not then stated for the first time, and it is an incredible thing that an entire community should be stirred to its depths by a calm statement of facts, such as the letter contains, if there were not existing many real causes of complaint. Governor Eyre forgets to state, that previous to the publication of the letter, his administration had excited intense political agitation in the island. In a despatch in the Parliamentary Papers, dated 8th February 1865, he himself alludes to the ferment that had existed, and which had scarcely time to subside, previous to the Session of the Legislature in November 1864.

He cannot surely forget the irritation that his conduct in the tramroad affair created, both in the Assembly and the minds of the people. If great excitement followed the publication of the letter, it was because misgovernment, neglect of the interests of the emancipated people, indifference to their welfare on the part of the ruling classes, with the extravagance and corruption of the Legislature, had sown everywhere the seeds of discontent; had destroyed all confidence among the governed in the wisdom, justice, and goodwill of their rulers, and had divided the entire community into hostile sections.

15. But for the real existence of these evils, the "discontented political agitators," to whom his Excellency finally alludes, would have found no means by which "to create dissension and to stir up animosities against the authorities." That it should be necessary to abolish the constitution of Jamaica, and to reconstruct the Administration entirely anew, is abundant proof that wise and just government had not been secured. The surrender of its powers and privileges to the Crown by the Jamaica Legislature, speaks volumes as to its incapacity, and its want of success in accomplishing the objects of its existence. It has grossly failed, either to secure prosperity for the interests it has especially tried to serve, or to raise the peasantry from the degradation in which slavery had left them. "There can be no certain, no consistent, no satisfactory legislation," says his Excellency, in his Despatch of 19th April, "where personal feelings and private considerations are so constantly allowed to take the place of a sense of public duty, and a desire to promote the public good."

Because the Legislature of Jamaica has permitted selfish and class objects to blind it to its duty, it perishes without a word of regret even from its own members. All classes are jubilant over its tomb. By its own act it pleads guilty to the charges of incompetence, misgovernment, and venality that have been

been brought against it. Its proceedings have long been a grievance of the greatest magnitude: and by accepting the sacrifice of its right to exist, Governor Eyre himself establishes the fact that the grievances of the people were real and not imaginary, as, with a strange inconsistency, he affirms.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edw. B. Underhill.*

(No. 84.) — No. 3. —

No. 3.
The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.
22 February 1866.
Colonial Office to Dr. Underhill, 6 Feb. page 3.
Dr. Underhill, 12 Feb., page 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

Sir, Downing street, 22 February 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith the copy of a letter, in which I communicated to Dr. Underhill Governor Eyre's Despatch,* No. 1 of 1st January, respecting the publication in Jamaica of his letter to me of 5th January 1865, together with a copy of Dr. Underhill's answer.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

— No. 4. —

No. 4.
Rev. F. Trestrail to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
23 February 1866.

COPY of a LETTER from the Rev. *F. Trestrail*, to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

Baptist Mission, 2 John street, Bedford-row,
Sir, 23 February 1866.

MY colleague, Dr. Underhill, has submitted to me his reply to the allegations contained in Governor Eyre's Despatch, dated 1st January 1866,* with a copy you kindly furnished him. I should not have presumed to trouble you with any addition to his statements, but that certain facts, communicated to me in July 1864 by some of our missionaries in Jamaica were not adverted to by him; and which facts, it seems to me, ought to be made known to you, because they set forth the opinion which Governor Eyre then entertained of the gentlemen whom he now, and as I believe undeservedly, so strongly condemns.

In paragraph No. 9 Governor Eyre writes thus:

"Public meetings were got up in many parishes, mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting, or professing to act, in connection with them, and Baptist ministers in many instances took a prominent part at such meetings, addressing the mob, and joining in resolutions adopting entirely, and vouching for the correctness of Dr. Underhill's allegations; whilst, by many speeches at some of these meetings, the Government authorities, the custodes, the magistracy, the planters and others were denounced in the most unmeasured terms. I have already, in previous despatches, pointed out occasions in which Baptist ministers have taken part in those meetings, and the evil results likely to flow therefrom."

Permit me to lay before you a very different description of the conduct and character of Baptist ministers in Jamaica, and drawn chiefly by the same hand.

On the 17th February 1864, a meeting of ministers and delegates of Baptist churches, representing 50,000 persons, was held at Montego Bay, attended, it is said by competent judges, by 10,000 persons. Among other business transacted at this meeting was the adoption of an address to Governor Eyre, expressing in strong terms their approval of his publicly avowed determination to employ no one in the Government service who could not produce satisfactory testimonials of good moral conduct. From that address the following is an extract:

"We should be wanting in a proper discharge of our duty to God, to ourselves, to the thousands of our congregations, and to the religious public in general, did we fail to record our most cordial approval of your Excellency's late official notice requiring as essential, from all candidates for office under Government, the possession of moral as well as other qualifications; and stating, as a discouragement of immorality, the disadvantages that would result to individuals of disreputable character already in office, in relation to their future position and emolument, by their continued indulgence in vicious practices andhabits."

The

* *Vide* Papers presented; "Disturbances," Part III., page 3.

The address was presented to his Excellency, who received it with great satisfaction; and I now submit for your consideration a part of his answer to it:

"It is the duty of every Governor to do all in his power to discountenance vice and immorality; and in no way can he do this more effectually than by regarding such conduct as disqualifying for appointments to and promotion in the public service.

"I thank you for this spontaneous expression of your approval and sympathy. At the present juncture it is especially encouraging to me to receive such disinterested support.

"I cannot, gentlemen, close my reply, without briefly adverting to the gratifying account which I saw in one of the daily journals, that at your recent meeting at Montego Bay, there could not have been less than 10,000 persons assembled to meet you in celebration of the jubilee, and that yet, to use the words of that journal, not a single police case has resulted from this mammoth and memorable demonstration.

"What a contrast this peaceable and orderly assembly, to celebrate a religious service, presents to days gone by; surely, when the influence of the Christian Missionary is so powerful in the preservation of outward conduct and decorum, we may reasonably hope that it is not without its effect upon the inner man, and that as years pass by, and successive generations follow each other, the failings and vices of the rural population, in a great degree due to the yet unextinguished and degrading influences descended from slavery, may give way before the practice and teaching of Christian ministers, and that our country people may become in after years as honest, as truthful, and as virtuous, as are the peasantry of any other country.

"Persevere, then, gentlemen, in the holy undertaking in which you are engaged, and doubt not that, in his own good time, God will grant an answer to your prayers, and a blessing upon your labours.

"For your kind good wishes towards myself and my family, I return you, on their part and on my own, my grateful acknowledgments; and I humbly share in your prayer, that when our respective labours in this world are terminated, we may all meet in the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ."

As soon as the papers, containing an account of these proceedings, reached me, I published a brief statement of them in our Monthly Herald. It seemed due to his Excellency, and to my ministerial brethren in Jamaica, to make the facts known to the supporters of the mission in this country; in doing so, I added a few comments, and the spirit of these comments will be best seen in the subjoined quotation:

"Viewed in the light of these facts and statements, Governor Eyre comes up to Scriptural representation of a chief magistrate, 'a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them that do well,' and it was right and fitting that Christian ministers, who are so deeply interested in the well being of the people, should rally around their Governor, and support him, to the best of their ability, in his efforts to check the licentiousness of men who have too long disgraced the Government in whose service they have held a place."

It will appear, I think, to every candid mind, a thing incredible that Baptist ministers who acted thus in 1864, and supported his Excellency when he was bitterly assailed by his enemies, should, in 1865, have so far forgotten themselves, and belied the character they had sustained for years, many of them through a long life devoted to the best interests of the people of Jamaica, as to be guilty of public acts so unbecoming and injurious as those with which Governer Eyre now charges them.

In forwarding this communication to you, I have been actuated solely by a desire to vindicate the reputation of Christian ministers whom I have known for years, many of whom are among my most honoured and cherished friends. They have devoted their lives to the noble task of elevating the emancipated peasantry of Jamaica, and the inculcation on their congregations of the principles of the Christian religion, trained in the love and enjoyment of constitutional liberty, they have not failed to enforce obedience to authority and law, and I feel assured that it will, ere long, be made manifest, that both they and the congregations under their charge, are among the most dutiful and loyal subjects of our gracious and beloved Queen.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Fred. Trestrail.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 95.)

No. 5.
The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.
1 March 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M. P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

23rd February 1866, page 7.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the copy of a letter from the Rev. Frederick Trestrail, clerical secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society.

I have to request that you will communicate it to Governor Eyre, with the letter from Dr. Underhill, which formed an enclosure to my Despatch, No. 84,* of 22nd February.

* Page 7.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 81.)

No. 6.
Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
4 April 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

King's House, 4 April 1866.
(Received, 30 April 1866.)
(Answered, No. 147, 10 May 1866, page 13.)

Gov. Eyre to Sir H. K. Storks. No. 12 of 28 March 1866.
28 March 1866.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a letter from Governor Eyre to me, giving cover to a despatch from his Excellency addressed to you, in reply to your Despatches, Nos. 84 of the 22nd February, and 95 of the 1st ultimo.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. K. Storks.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

(No. 12.)

Encl. 1, in No. 6.
Mr. Eyre to Right Hon. E. Cardwell.
28 March 1866.

Sir, Flamstead, 28 March 1866.

I SHALL be obliged by your Excellency's transmitting to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the enclosed communication in reply to his Despatches, No. 84, of the 22nd February, No. 95, of the 1st instant, which were forwarded to me by his direction.

I have, &c.
His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B. (signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

Encl. 2, in No. 6.

Sir, Flamstead, 28 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, through Sir H. Storks, in order that I might peruse them, of your Despatches, No. 84, of the 22nd February, and No. 95, of the 1st instant, transmitting correspondence relative to Dr. Underhill's letter, and the proceedings of some of the Baptist missionaries in this colony.

I do not wish to prolong this discussion more than can be avoided, but it is only right I should show that I had good grounds for making the statements I did with regard to the tendency of the allegations contained in Dr. Underhill's letter, and of the action of some of the Baptist missionaries with regard to it.

Dr. Underhill contradicts my assertion that public meetings were got up in many parishes mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting or professing to act in connection with them.

At page 209 of Papers relative to the Affairs of Jamaica, presented to Parliament, February 1866, will be found a copy of resolutions adopted "at public meetings in Clarendon and Manchester, representing 2,000 persons, chiefly of the labouring classes."

These resolutions are signed by W. Claydon, Baptist missionary, chairman, and G. Moodie (also a Baptist minister), secretary.

At page 209 of the same Papers the Honourable F. Lowe, custos of Clarendon, reports of the Clarendon meeting:—

"The meeting appears to have been got up by the Reverend Mr. Claydon (not by requisition to myself as custos, as is usual when public meetings are desired), and was

held in the Baptist chapel at Fourpaths, in which that gentleman officiates; it was attended by between 400 and 500 persons of the labouring classes, but beyond the Reverend Mr. Claydon and two or three clergymen of his persuasion, I could not hear of any person of position or education being present."

With regard to the alleged public meeting in Manchester, at page 221 of the same Papers, the Honourable J. R. Hollingsworth, custos of Manchester, reports, "I have never known of any such meeting as is referred to. There certainly has never been any public meeting at Mandeville to my knowledge." The only possible inference is that the public meeting at Manchester, certified to by two Baptist ministers, was got up exclusively by that denomination.

At page 135 of the same Papers, the Honourable C. Royes, custos of St. Ann, states in reference to the now celebrated "Petition of the Poor People of Jamaica and parish of St. Ann's:"—

"An attentive consideration of the petition leads to the conclusion that it is based upon Dr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Secretary on the distress said to exist among the emancipated population in Jamaica, and if such letter had not been written neither would the petition have appeared."

Dr. Underhill states, "nor had Baptist ministers any hand whatever in the memorial from St. Ann's, to which Mr. Cardwell replied in the famous Despatch, headed 'The Queen's Advice;'" but the Reverend Mr. Millard, Baptist missionary, has recently given evidence before the Royal Commission that he was consulted by some of his people as to the propriety of their signing that document. It is true Mr. Millard's intention was to show that the petition did not originate in Dr. Underhill's letter, and he states that a large number of signatures were attached to it prior to the publication of that letter.

There were only 108 signatures altogether, and across the margin of the paper, opposite the earlier portion of the signatures, was written in the original petition, "Signed in St. Ann's on 28th March."

Dr. Underhill's letter was published in the "Guardian" newspaper on 21st March.

But admitting the correctness of Mr. Millard's statement, a reference to page 7 of the same papers will show that as early as February a circular issued by the Baptist Missionary Society in London, and said to contain statements somewhat similar to those in Dr. Underhill's letter, had been discussed in the public journals of the colony, and controverted by one of the Baptist missionaries, the Rev. S. Oughton.

It may be right here to call attention to the fact that the petition referred to professes to be from the "Poor People of Jamaica" as well as of "St. Ann's," and that consequently the answer was properly made known in every parish.

At page 189 of the same Papers, will be found my Despatch, transmitting resolutions passed at a meeting at Kingston, presided over by G. W. Gordon. Mr. Gordon had been a member of the Church of England, but was re-baptized by the Rev. J. Phillippo, Baptist minister of Spanish Town, and subsequently set up as a preacher himself.

At this meeting (page 190–1), persons designated as Rev. J. Roach, Rev. Edwin Palmer, Rev. J. Crole, took a prominent part, and made seditious speeches. The two former have since been convicted before a civil tribunal of "uttering seditious language." Mr. Palmer is, I understand, recognised as belonging to the Jamaica Baptist Union, the other two are called "Native Baptists." Mr. Gordon was mixed up with, and took a prominent part at meetings in many other parishes.

At page 196 of the same Papers, are given the resolutions adopted at a meeting at Savanna la Mar.

At this meeting the Rev. W. Burke, Baptist minister, and the Rev. J. Hewitt, Baptist minister, took part.

At page 199 of the same Papers, will be found a copy of the resolutions adopted at Montego Bay.

At this meeting the Rev. W. Dendy, the Rev. J. Henderson, the Rev. J. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, all Baptist ministers, took a prominent part.

Dr. Underhill complains that whilst three clergymen of the Church of England, two Wesleyan ministers, three Presbyterian ministers, and one Secession minister, have attended and participated in the class of meetings referred to, the Baptists alone have been singled out for reprehension.

I only remember two instances (though there may have been a third) of clergymen of the Church of England having been present at meetings of this kind: one at St. Mary, where Dr. Moore, the rector, acted as chairman, but recorded at the end of the resolutions that he "dissented entirely from the proceedings;" the other in Hanover, where the Rev. A. Davidson, the rector, signed the memorial adopted. This memorial did not affirm the correctness of Dr. Underhill's statements, and the address of the Rev. A. Davidson was reported to have been on "the duty of humiliation under the Divine hand in the present emergency." I have no means of knowing the tenor of the addresses (if any were made by the Wesleyan, Presbyterian, or Secession Methodist ministers), but I have no reason to suppose they were of a political character, or calculated to create discontent or disaffection amongst the negroes.

It is precisely because the addresses of the Baptist ministers (where they came under my notice) were of this character, and calculated to produce the effect stated, that it became my duty to inform the Secretary of State of the course being taken, and to record my conviction that such ministers "were doing their best not only to make the labourer discontented,

discontented, but to stimulate sedition and resistance to the laws and constituted authority" (*see* page 256 of the same Papers).

At pages 202–3–4 of the same Papers, are recorded the speeches referred to. I would particularly call attention to the following passages:—

The Rev. E. Hewitt—"We want to know why we are called upon to pay 50,000 *l.* to support the Established Church."

* * * * *

"Why do they ask you and me to pay for the building of their churches, for their wine, their organ and surplices? I won't say a word of their doctrine."

"We are taxed enormously for immigration purposes; all of you have to pay for it."

* * * * *

"I again say it is we who have to pay the debt: 18,500 immigrants have been brought to Jamaica, and what good has this done the country? It is you, the labourers, who ought to work, and then you will prosper."

The Rev. J. Reid—"The Assembly did not study the interests of the people, but squandered away their money."

The Rev. J. Henderson—"The object of the meeting is to take into consideration Dr. Underhill's letter."

* * * * *

"Part of the large debt was borrowed to bring immigrants. Have they done any good? (Voices—No, no.) Do they pay taxes? (Voices—No, no.) The natives, who are the labouring population, are driven away from the estates, and coolies taken in their stead."

* * * * *

"Why should it not also be said that we can't afford to pay 45,000 *l.* a year for keeping up the Established Church? I say we cannot, and will not continue to pay it."

* * * * *

"A great reduction in taxation may be made, and must be made."

The Rev. W. Dendy—"The people of the island are very heavily taxed. Why do they come to market with small baskets on their heads? If there was not such a heavy tax upon carts they would be more used, which would be a great saving of labour and time, and be the means of giving employment to carpenters and smiths in building them.

"What do we know of the laws that are made, and the grants by such laws in the Assembly, until they call upon us, by taxation, to pay them."

If these are the doctrines broached in public by recognised ministers of the Baptist Mission, what may not their more private teachings be, especially when taken in connection with the fact that not long afterwards these same ministers declined to circulate amongst or make known to the peasantry the Secretary of State's Despatch, containing the "Queen's Advice," emanating direct from the Throne.

Dr. Underhill states he has carefully gone over the resolutions of all the public meetings, 11 in number, in his possession, and in only one (St. Thomas-in-the-East, I presume) is there the slightest allusion to the offensive taxation entailed by the payment of the clergy of the Established Church out of the annual revenue of the island.

It is only necessary to remark that the resolutions adopted are no indications of the speeches made, or of the doctrine taught at the meetings. The extracts already quoted from the addresses of the Rev. E. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, the Rev. J. Henderson, and the Rev. W. Dendy, sufficiently illustrate this; and the recent conviction of the Rev. E. Palmer, the Rev. J. Crole, E. Goldson and T. Harry (before a civil tribunal), of uttering seditious language at these meetings, still further proves how little the resolutions show the nature of what takes place at them.

I need scarcely point out that Dr. Underhill has an extraordinary view of analogy when he infers that such doctrines as those of the Rev. E. Hewitt and the Rev. J. Henderson, addressed at a public meeting to an ignorant and excitable populace, are but echoes of the words used by me (in a despatch) to the Secretary of State, when I remarked that, "In the case of the Established Church, there can be no question but that the cost of this establishment is large in proportion to the revenue, or to the more general expenditure. It is also at variance with the principles or system which prevail in the more recently formed colonies." Moreover, Dr. Underhill omits to continue the quotation: "But it has been a fundamental part of the colonial system in the West Indies, little felt in the days of their prosperity, while to withdraw it now, or greatly reduce it, would be to withdraw the means of religious teaching from a large mass of the people."

From this it follows that the Baptists, and all other Dissenters, came to Jamaica with a full knowledge that it was a country in which a State church was by law established and provided for.

Dr. Underhill ridicules the idea of a people being stirred up into a belief of grievances unless they had real existence.

Let Mr. Samuel Holt (a black man and a local preacher of St. Elizabeth) answer Dr. Underhill. At the meeting at Montego Bay (*see* page 204 of the same Papers) it is reported that Mr. Holt said:—

"We all feel the hardship of the times, but did not know the cause of it. Sometimes we go to bed, and in the night we hear a rumbling, but we turn ourselves and do not know what the rumbling is. In the morning one man meets another, and he asks did you feel the earthquake last night? then we know what was the rumbling. Just so we all felt the hardship of the times, but did not know what was the cause. We did not know what the rumbling was until every one ask, have you read Dr. Underhill's letter? then we know what all the disturbance was, and the rumbling that bring us here to-day."

Then comes the practical application by the black man, of the teaching inculcated by the previous speakers (the Rev. E. Hewitt, the Rev. J. Reid, the Rev. J. Henderson, and the Rev. W. Dendy). Mr. Holt continues: "We are poor. Have we got the same property, the same quantity of clothing and money, as we had in times past? A reduction in taxation must take place. We shall have it made. We won't submit to be crushed down any longer. My friends, read the Acts of the Apostles. When the ship was in danger of being wrecked, did the vessel keep the heavy load in her till she went down to the bottom? No, they threw over some of the heavy load, and though the ship was lost those men who took wise counsel got safe to land. On the same principle, why should we wait until all is lost? Why not throw overboard the weight of taxation, and save those who could be saved? Why should we wait until all are entirely crushed, and do nothing before we cry out lost, lost?"

Dr. Underhill further remarks: "Governor Eyre forgets to state that, previous to the publication of his letter, his administration had excited intense political agitation in the island;" and again, "he cannot surely forget the irritation that his conduct in the tramroad affair created, both in the Assembly and in the minds of the people."

I need scarcely reply to these inuendoes further than by referring to the Correspondence on Party Government, laid before Parliament, in return to the Addresses of the House of Lords, 1865.

These Papers will show how little Dr. Underhill is acquainted with the subject upon which he so confidently expresses his opinion; that the political agitation to which he refers was confined to the members of the Legislature, or their immediate adherents; and that the people, as a body, scarcely knew there was a tramroad, and certainly took no interest in the question, either one way or the other. Whenever the subject has been in any way brought forward it will be found that some political partisan, from one or other branch of the Legislature, and not the people, has been the originator of the movement.

In reply to the Rev. F. Trestrail's communication it will be sufficient to state that the information therein given was communicated by myself to the Secretary of State at the time the address referred to was presented. It was again subsequently forwarded, with a memorial from Messrs. Henderson, Dendy, and Reid, in August 1865.

That I am not the only Governor who has unfortunately been compelled to change his opinion, with regard to the conduct of some of the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, will be evidenced by the following extract from a despatch from Governor Sir Charles Metcalfe to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 15th June 1840:—

"I entirely renounce the opinion which I at one time entertained that they (the Baptists) had done more good than harm. The good that they have done would have been done without them. The evil is exclusively their own."

Having felt it necessary, in my own justification, to bring these circumstances under your notice, I wish to state also, in justice to a large number of Baptist missionaries labouring in this Colony, that I believe them to be able, zealous, and earnest men, endeavouring to discharge their duty faithfully, and desirous to promote harmony and good-will amongst all classes.

I wish also to state that many of the persons called Baptist ministers are black men, unconnected with the Baptist Missionary Society, and generally persons of immoral lives, who are equally unfit either to guide themselves, or to teach others. These men commonly called "Native Baptists" are a curse to the country.

I will only add, in conclusion, my sincere hope that the Baptist Missionary Society in England (which might and ought to be so largely instrumental in benefiting the Colony) will see the necessity of instructing their missionaries to abstain, for the future, from mixing themselves up in politics or in questions between the employer of labour and the labourers.

Such interference can only destroy their influence and usefulness as Christian ministers, and may lead to very serious and fatal results to the Colony at large.

I have, &c.

The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *E. Eyre.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 147.)

No. 7

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. 10 May 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

Sir, Downing-street, 10 May 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 81,* of the 4th April, enclosing one from Governor Eyre, in answer to my Despatches, No. 84, of the 22d February, and No. 95, of 1st March.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

* Page 9.

— No. 8. —

(No. 98.)

No. 8.

Lieut. Gen. Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. 23 April 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

King's House, 23 April 1866.
(Received, 14 May 1866.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 177, 21 June 1866, page 58.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union.

I have referred the duplicate copy to Mr. Eyre for any observations on it which he may have to offer.

I shall transmit to you Mr. Eyre's reply by the next mail.

As this memorial was only presented to me for transmission on the 21st instant, there was not time to refer it to Mr. Eyre and obtain his observations on it before the sailing of the present mail, and as the memorialists were anxious that you should receive their statement without delay, I lose no time in forwarding it to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. K. Storks.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To the Right Honourable *E. Cardwell*, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Humble Memorial of the Missionaries and Ministers of "The Jamaica Baptist Union," assembled in Session in Spanish Town, on Thursday, 22 March 1866, and following days:

Sheweth,

THAT your Memorialists are aggrieved at certain charges made either against them, as a body, or against individual missionaries connected with them.

Some few of your memorialists have addressed the Honourable the Secretary of State on a former occasion, but they now desire, in their collective capacity, to represent the grievances of which they have to complain in the treatment they have experienced from his Excellency, Governor Eyre, during the past year, 1865.

Your Memorialists are charged, 1. In connection with the outbreak at Morant Bay, with being parties to certain "nefarious proceedings." (*See* Appendix A., No. 1.)

2. With neglect of duty, as ministers of the Gospel, in not giving suitable advice to their congregations. (Appendix A., No. 2.)

3. With disloyalty to their sovereign. (Appendix A., No. 3.)

4. With being dangerous characters, who tend to stir up sedition and rebellion, and who ought to be deported from the island. (Appendix A., No. 4.)

5. With being the principal movers of what have been called "the Underhill Meetings," at which the authorities are said to have been denounced in the most unmeasured terms. (Appendix A., No. 5.)

6. With keeping up an agitation against payments to the State church. (*See* Appendix A., No. 6.)

Your memorialists have also to complain:—

1. That the correspondence of some of them was intercepted at the post office by order of the Governor. (Appendix A., No. 7.)

2. That groundless rumours and newspaper paragraphs, prejudicial to your memorialists, were forwarded to the Colonial Office by his Excellency, without inquiry of the parties informed against, and without giving to those whom they implicated the opportunity of explanation or refutation. (Appendix A., No. 8).

Your memorialists hailed with satisfaction the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the late disturbances, among other reasons, because they hoped that opportunity would have been afforded to vindicate their characters from what they conceive to be unjust aspersions, before the Commissioners graciously appointed by Her Majesty. This opportunity has not, however, been afforded them, as the following statements will show. While the Commissioners have treated your memorialists with consideration and courtesy, they have adjudged that these questions do not come within the limits of the inquiry which they have been appointed to prosecute.

Your memorialists, from the opening of the Commission, have not failed to present themselves before the Commissioners by counsel and solicitor, as also on the part of several of them in person. In evidence of the course taken by themselves on the one hand, and by the Commissioners on the other, they refer to the documents included in the Appendix. The Royal Commissioners having declined to consider the grievances of which your memorialists complain, they are left to seek redress at the hands of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and are sure that it will not be withheld. (Appendix B. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.)

In refutation of the charges alleged against them, and in support of the complaints they have had to make, your memorialists crave permission to offer the following observations:—

1. As to the charge of disloyalty to their Sovereign, or of being in any way parties to "nefarious proceedings" connected with the outbreak at Morant Bay, or of being dangerous characters who tend to stir up sedition and rebellion, your memorialists have not only to express their astonishment that the allegations should have been made against them, but venture, with all respect to authority, to give them the most unqualified denial. In support of this denial, we may refer to the testimonials which at different times your memorialists have had from successive Governors of this colony, and other gentlemen of distinguished character and position. They may refer, especially, to Earl Mulgrave, the Marquis of Sligo, Sir Lionel Smith, Sir Henry Barkly, and to Governor Eyre himself; and also to Joseph Sturge, and to Joseph John Gurney, Esquires. (Appendix C., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.)

Your memorialists may also refer to the fact, that the scene of their labours is for the most part remote from the disturbed districts, and that where their churches and ministers are most numerous and influential, there peace and order have prevailed. In the county of Cornwall there are 16 Baptist ministers, 29 churches, and 9,969 members. In the county of Middlesex there are 16 ministers, 38 churches, and 10,042 members. Whereas in the county of Surrey there are only seven ministers, 15 churches, and 2,114 members. Or, taking individual parishes, in St. James, we have six ministers, six churches, and 2,975 members; in Trelawney, six ministers, 10 churches, and 3,501 members; in St. Ann, six ministers, 11 churches, and 3,744 members. In these districts tranquillity has prevailed; but in St. Thomas-in-the-East, your memorialists have only 286 church members, and only one minister; and that, during the disturbances, he and his family had to place themselves under the protection of the authorities. (Appendix D.)

Your memorialists also beg to state, that in the recent political trials there was only one of their ministers, and not a single member of their churches, indicted by the Crown officers. And in regard to that one minister, while your memorialists intrude no judgment of the trial here, they venture to think that no British jury would have given a verdict for the prosecution on the evidence advanced.

That any Governor of this Colony should have ventured to suggest to Her Majesty's Government the deportation from the island of any of their number as dangerous characters your memorialists regard as a cruel imputation against the lives of men, who, some of them for nearly 40 years, have served, as the fruits of their labours will testify, the most valuable purposes in the cause of social peace and order, to say nothing of the higher and more spiritual objects of their mission.

Your memorialists venture to submit a tabular statement (*see* Appendix E., Nos. 1 and 2), exhibiting a list of the more respectable persons arrested during martial law out of the districts under martial law, from which it will be seen, that of these 25 were members of the Church of England, one native Wesleyan, one Methodist, United Church, one Independent, three Jews, three native Baptists, 25 Roman Catholics, and three Baptists connected with the Baptist Missionary Society.

Your memorialists may also state, that one-half of their number are natives of Great Britain, and from their infancy have been educated in sentiments of warmest attachment to the British Throne and Government; that the other half being natives of this island have been trained in connection with them, the most of them having been educated in their Theological Institution at Calabar; that some of them have families settled in the country in occupation of respectable and responsible positions; and that, as a body, they are either the trustees or holders of mission property to the value of more than 100,000 *l.*; that they have, therefore, an interest in the country incompatible with the charges alleged.

Your

Your memorialists may further confidently appeal to their regular ministration, in which they have ever been accustomed to inculcate the duty of submission to the Powers that be, obedience to the laws, and payment of taxes, as well as to pray for Kings and for all that are in authority; that they may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all Godliness and honesty. And in evidence of this they challenge the testimony of the general public, to whom the doors of their places of worship are always open.

2. As to the teachings of your memorialists on social duties, they venture to affirm that the entire history of their mission is a direct contradiction of charges or innuendoes which have been alleged against them. They have ever aimed to stimulate the industry of their people; and, dependent as they have been upon them for support, have had as an additional motive to do so, the identity of the material interests of their people as their own. Occasionally they have given more formal explanation to their sentiments on such subjects at public meetings held for the express purpose of promoting such objects (*see* Appendix F., No. 1). They may also appeal to published documents, from which the character and tendency of their instructions on this subject may be seen (*see* Appendix F., No. 2).

3. As to the charge against your memorialists, or some of their number, of attending what have been called "Underhill Meetings," and of endorsing at them the statements of Dr. Underhill, the Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies, will permit them to say, that the extent to which they have endorsed the statements of Dr. Underhill's letter is set forth in reply to the printed circular, including a printed copy of it from his Excellency, Governor Eyre. In Mr. Eyre's Despatch, No. 128, paragraph 3, his Excellency states, "From the Baptist Society the report now transmitted is a very carefully and ably got up paper, and contains much interesting and valuable information"; and at paragraph 6, "As a whole, the report is a very fair and candid one, and will convey to Her Majesty's Government much important and useful information, though there are, of course, many statements, opinions, and inferences in which I am unable to coincide." How, after writing this Despatch, his Excellency should have pronounced the endorsement on the part of any of your memorialists of Dr. Underhill's statements as "nefarious," or how he should have treated such endorsements as seditious, your memorialists are at a loss to understand.

As to the part taken by any of your memorialists in "Underhill Meetings": In the first place, they deny the statements of Governor Eyre, that such meetings were got up mostly through the agency of Baptist missionaries, and, with all submission, they challenge inquiry and proof. There are 41 ministers in connection with their body, and of these there are 15 Europeans and 16 native ministers—in all 31—who took no part in these meetings at all. While it will be seen that in common with those Baptist ministers who did take part in these meetings, there were two clergymen of the Church of England, one Wesleyan minister in full standing, and one Catechist, one Wesleyan minister formerly recognised, one secession Methodist minister, and three ministers of the United Presbyterian Body. (Appendix G., No. 1.)

It may be also stated, that of the "Underhill Meetings," known by report to your memorialists, one was convened by the mayor of Kingston, one by the senior magistrate of Spanish Town, and six by the custodes of parishes; only one having been called on the responsibility of a Baptist minister, and that in his own chapel. (Appendix G., No. 2.)

4. As to the charge of keeping up an agitation against payments to the State Church, your memorialists beg permission to say that they and their people, by general acknowledgment the largest religious community in the island, are Protestant Dissenters, and claim the right on all fitting occasions to give utterance to their distinctive views; but they challenge inquiry and proof that they ever at any time have done so, other than in a lawful and constitutional way, or that they ever did so in a manner calculated to disturb the peace of the community.

5. That the correspondence of any of your memorialists should have been intercepted at the post office by order of the Governor they regard as a serious grievance, reflecting upon them a groundless and unjust suspicion of complicity with crimes from which they revolt, and of which their whole lives and relations give assurance they are incapable. This unconstitutional act of the Government, they are aware has been their vindication, showing how unfounded and unworthy the suspicion against them was, but they feel that they have a right to claim an acknowledgment of the injustice with which they were treated.

6. Your memorialists venture further to submit a statement in regard to the rumours and newspaper reports forwarded to Her Majesty's Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies, prejudicial to their characters, without inquiry from them. A copy of the "County Union" was sent by Governor Eyre, purporting to contain a report of a public meeting held at Montego Bay ("Affairs of Jamaica," Despatch No. 137; Enclosure 2, in No. 29). Of newspaper statements generally your memorialists may quote the words of Mr. Eyre himself: "In colonial communities fabrications and exaggerations of the grossest character are constantly being circulated either from sheer wantonness, from a desire to appear important in the eyes of those to whom the statement are made, or from worse motives. These *canards* are very generally circulated by the local press, and often obtain currency and credence at a distance" ("Disturbance in Jamaica," Despatch, No. 334). To show how little reliance can be placed on newspaper reports of spoken addresses, your memorialists place alongside the report of the "County Union" that of another newspaper called "Lyons Paper," published in the same town, which, it will be seen, is essentially different.

And at the same time it must be stated that those of your memorialists who attended the meeting repudiate the report of their speeches in both, as being inaccurate and misleading. (Appendix H.).

In regard to the rumour forwarded by Mr. Hart to Governor Eyre, and sent by him, without inquiry, to the Colonial Office, in which one of your memorialists, the Rev. Edward Hewett, is represented as intending to preside at a monster meeting, &c., &c., your memorialists have to state that it is untrue, the simple fact being that Mr. Hewett, in common with other neighbouring ministers, had announced his intention to hold the annual missionary meeting in connection with his congregations usually held at the season at which it was announced to take place. These meetings, however, were immediately postponed on an intimation having been given that some gentlemen of the district, magistrates, thought it advisable to do so.

In regard to the reports forwarded to the Colonial Office by Governor Eyre, respecting the Reverend William Claydon, also without previous enquiry, your memorialists have to say— 1. That Mr. Hollingsworth, custos of Manchester, was entirely misled, that his information was wholly false; that no such language as that imputed to Mr. Claydon was ever uttered by him; and further, that no meeting was held at Jubilee Chapel at the time alleged by Mr. Hollingsworth's informant. 2. That while on the mission premises at Porus, an outbuilding was let by Mr. Claydon as a store, it was with the express understanding that spirits of any kind should not be sold on the premises, and that as soon as it was ascertained that this agreement was violated the persons in occupation had notice served upon them to quit. That any conduct as that referred to in the Enclosure of Mr. Eyre's Despatch, is altogether beyond Mr. Claydon's knowledge, nor can he be held in any way responsible for it, having no connection with the parties in question.

Your memorialists are sorry to trouble Her Majesty's Honourable Secretary of State for the Colonies with these personal details, but the characters of some of their number have been attacked by Governor Eyre, and unfounded rumours and reports having been transmitted by him to Her Majesty's Government, and published among papers laid before the Imperial Parliament, they are laid under the necessity of doing so to vindicate themselves from unmerited reproach.

Your memorialists, honoured sir, having in vain courted investigation, and sought redress from the Royal Commissioners, now confidently leave their case in the hands of Her Majesty's Government, and hold themselves prepared to meet the most searching enquiry. They will only add, that having been impeached before the British public by one of Her Majesty's Colonial Governors, they strongly urge their claim to receive that public and unqualified vindication to which they feel themselves entitled, and for which they pray.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

(signed) *James M. Phillippo*, Spanish Town, St. Catherine.
Walter Dendy, Salter's Hill, St. James.
(And 25 other signatures.)

Appendix A.

No. 1.

In a Despatch from Governor Eyre to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, dated 20 October 1865, paragraph 64, are the following words:

"The parties who have more immediately taken part in these nefarious proceedings are, ... fifthly, a few Baptist missionaries, who like Messrs. Henderson, Reid, Dendy, Hewitt, and Maxwell, endorse at public meetings, or otherwise, all the untruthful statements or innuendoes propagated in Dr. Underhill's letter."

See Blue Book, "Disturbances in Jamaica," Part I., page 7. 1866.

No. 2.

Extract of Letter from the Hon. *E. Jordon*, by order of Governor *Eyre*, to the Rev. *J. E. Henderson*, the Rev. *Walter Dendy*, and the Rev. *J. Reid.*

"I am further to state that if such advice had been more frequently given before by those who undertake to guide and teach the people, their condition at the present moment would possibly have been much better than it is, and the advice less needed now."

"Affairs of Jamaica;" Despatch No. 210; Enclosure 3, in No. 64.

No. 3.

Extract of Letter from Mr. *Jordon*.

"I am commanded to request you will be so good as to hand over to the custos of St. James the circulars which you decline to circulate, containing the advice of your Sovereign."

"Affairs of Jamaica." Despatch No. 210. Enclosure 3, in No. 64.

Extract from Governor *Eyre* to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"Baptist ministers . . . who treated the Queen's advice in so disloyal and unbecoming a manner."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part II. Despatch No. 332.

No. 4.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"It will be necessary to pass a law in the Colony authorizing the deportation of all persons who, leaving their proper sphere of action as ministers of religion, become political demagogues and dangerous agitators."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 253.

No. 5.

In a Despatch, dated 23d October 1865, from Governor Eyre to the Colonial Office, it is said:

"In dealing with the rebellion recently broken out, and still existing in Jamaica, it became manifest that the movement had been long in progress, that it had been stirred up and stimulated by the indiscreet acts, language, or writings of persons of education, and in a better sphere of life, as well as by political demagogues and agitators, who have used the most violent and seditious language.

"Chief among the former class, I regret to say, are the secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society in England, Dr. Underhill, and some of the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, who have endorsed and enlarged upon his views and statements."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page —.

Extract from Despatch, 28 October 1865. Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"The fearful but necessary results of agitation by some of the Baptist missionaries in this Colony, and by other political agitators and demagogues, are fully developed in my Despatch, 251, of the 20th of October, giving an account of the recent rebellion, and of the still unsettled state of the island."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page 53.

No. 6.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"One of the great objects of the agitation kept up by certain Baptist ministers or by other Dissenters, is the abolition of payments to the State Church."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 257.

No. 7.

Extract from Despatch of Governor *Eyre* to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

"I deemed it right . . . . to examine some of the letters arriving by the last English mail for certain Baptist ministers."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I. Despatch No. 253.

No. 8.

In the Blue Book relative to the Disturbances in Jamaica, Part II., page 11., an Extract from the "Jamaica Guardian," of 20th December 1865, is sent by Governor Eyre under the same date. In that article it is said:—

"But we emphatically state it is our belief, and are thoroughly convinced of the correctness of the assertion, Dr. Underhill's letter, and the action of certain Baptist missionaries and others regarding it, were some of the principal causes of the St. Thomas-in-the-East rebellion."

The missionaries are moreover charged in calling "mass meetings" of the peasantry to show them that they were suffering from abject poverty and distress to the point of starvation, &c.

On July 17th a Despatch sent to the Colonial Office with the "Jamaica Guardian" of 15th July 1865, in which the Baptist missionaries are represented as "apparently wishing to bolster up their tottering case." That they were men who have overreached themselves, and now stand convicted before the public of Jamaica, as men in whose good judgment the confidence of the British and Jamaica public cannot be placed, &c.

"Affairs of Jamaica (pages 233-234) for 1866."

From the Honourable *H. Westmoreland* to Governor *Eyre* (Extract).

"At Mr. M'Dowell's request, I send a memorandum of communication made by Mr. Hart, of Montego Bay, to Mr. Charles Levy (Member of Assembly) of this city."

Extract.

"I have just heard that Mr. Hewitt intends to preside at a monster meeting on Monday next, and God only knows what may be the result. Mr. Hewitt is a Baptist parson, and residing only five miles from this. We are all kept in a state of total ignorance as to the meaning of all this, and don't know at what moment we may be pounced upon. We are still without protection; and a magazine with ammunition, totally unguarded, is within a quarter of a mile of the town. God help us."

"Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., page 71.

Memorandum by the Custos of Manchester.

"Richard M. Gordon told me that he attended a meeting at Jubilee Chapel at the end of July, when the Rev. W. Claydon made an inflammatory speech to the people, saying that white men oppressed the blacks, that they must not submit to rent land in the way they were doing, and that the Church of England must pay for their own parsons, and not tax them for it. There was another meeting called, but he did not go back, as he felt he was having wrong advice given him against the whites."

(signed) "*John R. Hollingsworth.*"

Extract from a Letter of the Rev. *A. Lindo* to Mr. *Hollingsworth*,, dated Whitefield Mission House, Porus, 25 October 1865. (Blue Book, Part I., page 120.)

"I may also state that on Saturday evening last a large assemblage of men with sticks was seen in front of the rum shop, which is kept on the Baptist Mission premises here. These men, inflamed by drink, might not always disperse as peaceably as on this occasion; an outbreak might be the consequence. I believe that should such a circumstance occur, many worthless, disaffected characters would join in it, and thus valuable lives might be lost, ere needed assistance be rendered."

Appendix B.

No. 1.

Copy of Memorandum furnished by Memorialists' Solicitor, *Charles Harvey*, Esq., Spanish Town.

"In the Royal Commission, 12 February 1866.

"Monday, 12th, the 17th day.

"Some of the Baptist missionaries feel aggrieved by their solicitor's omission to cross-examine Governor Eyre at the time of his examination-in-chief, as to the grounds of his insinuations against Doctor Underhill and the missionaries, referred to in the Governor's Despatch to the Secretary of State.

"This

"This cross-examination was suggested at the time by Mr. Gorrie (for Mr. Phillippo of counsel), but was over-ruled by the Royal Commissioners, it being considered more convenient to defer this till after re-examinations, and until after the evidence as to the causes and suppression be closed.

"The missionaries being apprehensive that an antagonistic feeling may be raised by the publication in England of Governor Eyre's evidence, without their vindication and explanation annexed, it is desired at this stage to have Mr. Millard's (the secretary of the local missionaries) evidence, and also the evidence of the Rev. D. J. East, taken at once, in rebutter; and showing the publication of Dr. Underhill's published letter as the Governor's act.

"Move, therefore, that the Rev. Benjamin Millard be examined to-day or to-morrow on his written statement now produced, as to the facts of publication; and, also, the Rev. Mr. East, as soon as he can be brought to town, saving evidence on the part of the missionaries, as to their explanation and vindication of Mr. Eyre's inuendoes against them, until Mr. Eyre's re-examination."

(signed) "*C. Harvey*, Solicitor."

"George Phillippo, Esq., of Counsel
for Dr. Underhill and the Baptist Missionaries."

Motion made, and also for access to a transcript of the Government short-hand writer's notes of evidence.

The Royal Commissioners will consider and give their determination upon it to-morrow.

Notified in Chambers, that there were no charges against Dr. Underhill or his mission, to require the Commissioners' interference at this stage.

(signed) *C. Harvey.*

13 February 1866.

No. 2.

May it please your Excellency, Spanish Town, 26 February 1866.

Your Excellency will herewith receive a communication signed by the Baptist missionaries now in town, my own among them, signifying their desire and ability to vindicate Dr. Underhill and themselves from the charges expressed and implied of having been accessory to the late riot at Morant Bay by their letters and meetings, as also in other ways, and to the dissatisfaction that is stated to have existed in other parts of the country. This vindication they think the society and public at home will expect from them. They do not, however, wish by this application for your Excellency, as President of the Royal Commission, to depart from the course your Excellency and Assistant Commissioners have decided on pursuing, but only with a view of hearing from your Excellency, as President, an official reply, stating that such an application had been received, but that it was declined as not being within the scope of inquiry directed by the parent Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. M. Phillippo.*

No. 3.

The following Statement was sent in to the Royal Commission on the 26th of February 1866, accompanied with a Letter from their Senior Missionary, the Rev. *J. M. Phillippo.*

In consequence of certain charges against the peasantry, on the part of the authorities, of wide-spread sedition, in consequence also of a few Baptist missionaries, not named, having been charged with nefarious proceedings, by their having, at public meetings, endorsed the statements of Dr. Underhill's letter, several Baptist missionaries, occuping official relations to the Christian body with which they are connected, have been in attendance on the sittings of the Royal Commissioners appointed to inquire into the cause and circumstances of the late outbreak in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

They have been so in the hope that an opportunity would be furnished them of meeting these charges by putting evidence counter to them.

The undersigned, with a selected number of other missionaries from various parts of the country, would have been prepared, and are still willing, should they be called upon, to give evidence to the following effect:—

I. In regard to the state of feeling amongst the peasantry towards law and authority as ascertained—

1st. By the most careful inquiry of individual members, and of the officer of their congregations, immediately after the time of the late disturbance.

2dly. As seen in the manner in which these public teachings were received in relation to the duty of obedience to the laws and submission to the Government, was received.

3dly. And when, as confirmed by their intercourse with Christian ministers of other denominations.

4thly. One of their number could have given the result of observations of several journeys extending from St. Ann's to Hanover and Westmoreland, about the time that the outbreak took place; and another as to the cordiality and kindness with which the colonel of one of Her Majesty's regiments, and the detachment accompanied, were treated on their route through the mountains of St. James.

By such evidence the missionaries would have been glad, and still would be glad of the opportunity of vindicating the peasantry, and feeling deeply aggrieved that such charges should ever have been alleged against them.

In regard to the charge alleged against the missionaries, the undersigned and others were and still are prepared to show—

1. That while a few Baptist missionaries, in common with clergymen of the Established Church, and ministers of other Christian denominations did attend public meetings to endorse Dr. Underhill's letter, these meetings, as far as their knowledge of them goes, were orderly in their character, and peaceable in their tendency, so as on no account to deserve to be called nefarious, and that in scarcely any instances were these meetings called by Baptist missionaries, or held in connexion with them, but were mostly parochial meetings.

2. That the testimony of successive Governors of this Island, among them Sir Lionel Smith, Sir Charles Metcalfe, Sir Henry Barkly, to the general character of the missionaries of the Baptist Missionary Society, and the usefulness of their influence in favour of loyalty, law, and order, tending to show how groundless such accusations must be.

(signed) *J. M. Phillippo*, Spanish Town.
J. E. Henderson, Montego Bay.
Walter Dendy, Salter's Hill, St. James.
B. Millard, St. Ann's Bay.
D. J. East, Calabar Institution.

No. 4.

Reply.

Jamaica Royal Commission.

Sir, King's House, Spanish Town, 10 March 1866.

Your letter of the 26th ult., accompanying a memorial signed by yourself and other clergymen of the Baptist communion, and addressed to the President of the Royal Commission, was in due course laid before his Excellency.

In that letter you state the desire and ability of the Baptist clergymen referred to, to vindicate Dr. Underhill and themselves from certain charges of having been accessory to the late disturbance at Morant Bay, and also to disprove the allegation of the existence of a general spirit of disaffection among the peasantry.

I am directed by the President of the Commission to inform you and the other memorialists that no evidence has been given before the Commissioners affecting the character of Dr. Underhill or Baptist missionaries in relation to the recent disturbances in St. Thomas-in-the-East, to which subject their inquiry is limited.

His Excellency is therefore of opinion that it would be a departure from the rule laid down by the Commissioners to admit evidence in contradiction of charges of which they have no cognizance.

It is unnecessary for me to touch upon the other subject embraced in the memorial, inasmuch as evidence with respect to the alleged general disaffection of the peasantry has already been received from several leading members of the Baptist community.

I am, &c.

To the Rev. James Phillippo. (signed) *Charles S. Roundell.*

No. 5.

Sir, Spanish Town, 23 March 1866.

Having been informed that his Excellency, Mr. Eyre, at his examination on Wednesday last, read from the "County Union" newspaper what purported to be a speech delivered by me at Montego Bay in May last, I shall be glad of an opportunity of stating before the Royal Commission that I never delivered the speech as reported in the paper mentioned. I should also be glad of an opportunity of stating that I had nothing whatever to do with getting up any of the so-called "Underhill meetings," with the exception of the one held at Montego Bay. I would, with all respect, suggest that the opportunity I seek should be afforded me, as my name has been mentioned more than once by his Excellency Mr. Eyre.

I am, &c.

To C. S. Roundell, Esq., (signed) *John E. Henderson.*
Secretary to Royal Commission, Spanish Town.

No. 6.

JAMAICA ROYAL COMMISSION.

King's House, Spanish Town,
24 March 1866.

Sir,

I HAVE received your letter of the 23d instant; I beg to state, in reply, that in the course of the evidence tendered by Governor Eyre in his recent examination, it was more than once intimated by the Royal Commissioners that the documents then being put in were admitted, not as evidence of the facts therein contained, but evidence of information (whether intrinsically correct or incorrect) brought to the knowledge of the authorities at the particular time, and upon which the Government acted.

Similarly when, in the course of the same evidence, speeches made at certain so-called "Underhill meetings" were referred to, the Commissioners explained (in answer to observations made by counsel) that such speeches were admitted not as evidence of the language actually used, or of the effect (good or bad) supposed to have been produced by them, but merely as an element which, at that time, contributed to influence the action of the Government.

In other words, the issue in support of which such documentary evidence was admitted was an issue entirely irrespective of the substantive correctness or incorrectness of the facts involved.

That being so, it necessarily follows that the issue of facts, both with reference to the speech alleged to have been delivered by you at Montego Bay in May last, and other matters connected with the so-called "Underhill meetings," was not raised, and consequently, that the occasion for evidence in explanation or contradiction does not arise.

I am, &c.

Rev. J. E. Henderson. (signed) *Charles S. Roundell.*

Appendix C.

No. 1.

REPLY of Earl *Mulgrave.*

HIS Excellency Earl Mulgrave, on his departure, was presented with an address by Baptist missionaries and ministers of other denominations, to which he replied, "But to all of those who have concurred in this address, towards whom the protection of the law was previously doubtful, as well as to that body of Dissenters who have before addressed me, I must here return my thanks for their discreet and praiseworthy conduct during the period of my government.

"That confidence they have uniformly shown in my good intentions on their behalf, which has frequently induced them to practise a patient forbearance under temporary difficulties and unmerited evils, has, I am convinced, by an avoidance of unnecessary collision, tended to secure the successful prosecution of your several duties in that path which is most acceptable to the Divine Founder of our religion—that of peace and goodwill towards men."

No. 2.

Sir *Lionel Smith.*

SIR LIONEL SMITH replied to an Address presented by the Ministers of the Baptist Western Union, on the 18th August 1839, from which the following is extracted:—

"On my assuming the government of this Colony, I strongly expressed my reliance on the whole body of missionaries, in their high integrity of purpose, and in their loyal principles. You more than realize all the benefits I expected from your ministry, by raising the negroes from the mental degradations of slavery to the cheering obligations of Christianity, and they were thus taught that patient endurance of evil which has so materially contributed to the general tranquillity. Even with the aid of a vicious and well-paid press, both in England and in Jamaica, and, it may be presumed, some habitual confidence in Jamaica juries, the enemies of your religion have never dared to go to the proof of their audacious accusations against you.

"The admirable conduct of the peasantry in such a crisis has constituted a proud triumph to the cause of religion; and those who contributed to enlighten them on their moral duties through persecution, insults, and dangers, have deserved the regard and esteem of the good and the just in all Christian countries.

"For myself, gentlemen, I thank you for all the regret you express at my removal from this Government. I have stayed here, however, longer than my duty to my own family warranted. Neither scurrilous abuse from the pulpit, or from the press, or repeated threats of assassination, have deterred me from doing my duty to the emancipated population; I have been more than rewarded by seeing their sober joys in freedom. I fully forgive the violent men who, smarting under the loss of power, have heedlessly imputed to the Executive those galling changes ordained by Providence against the interests of the selfish few for the happiness of the many.

"I entreat you also to forgive your enemies; and I feel confident you will continue to

use your influence in encouraging the industry of the labourers, remembering how essential employment is in all countries for the prevention of crime, and how much the spread of universal liberty to the slave must depend on the result of remunerated labour.

"Gentlemen, I take my leave of you with sentiments of the most sincere respect and esteem. I beg you to receive my best wishes for the peace and happiness of yourselves, your families, and your community; and so long as my name may be recollected by the members of your churches, implore them for my sake to persevere in the character which they have earned as good Christians and loyal subjects."

(signed) "*Lionel Smith.*"

REPLY of Sir *Lionel Smith* to an Address presented to him by Ministers and Members of Congregations residing in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, &c. &c.

Reverend Sir, King's House, 4 March 1839.

I HAVE received the address you have been commissioned to present to me on behalf of the ministers and members of congregations in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, in St. Ann's, and in St. John's.

I have been prevented from replying to it as early as I could have wished, in consequence of indisposition; but I now beg you to accept and convey to all the members of your churches my sincere thanks for the kind consideration which they have expressed towards me, at a time when there is so much unreasonable violence to contend with among all classes.

I am well assured of the loyal and grateful spirit of the whole mass of the people lately emancipated, and I anxiously hope they will, under the careful superintendence of their ministers, continue to improve in all those habits which may lead to their present and future happiness.

(signed) *Lionel Smith.*

No. 4.

Sir *Henry Barkly.*

ADDRESS of the MINISTERS of the BAPTIST WESTERN UNION to the Governor of Jamaica on his Visit to the Theological Institution of the Baptist Missionary Society, *Calabar*, on Tuesday, 9 May 1854, with his Excellency's Reply.

To His Excellency Sir *Henry Barkly*, Knight, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the ministers connected with the Baptist Western Union, having under our care 59 congregations, comprising between 50,000 and 60,000 individuals, avail ourselves of the present visit of your Excellency, to congratulate your Excellency on your appointment to the government of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions, and to express our earnest desire that you may have the happiness of seeing it rise to the highest degree of prosperity.

We need not express to your Excellency our anxiety to promote the moral and religious improvement of the inhabitants of this island, and in making this statement we may be permitted to inform your Excellency that there are 45 day-schools, and upwards of 60 Sabbath-schools, containing not less than 10,000 scholars in connection with the congregations under our care.

We are fully convinced that the education of the people, to be effective, must be religious; and, feeling as we do, that institutions for religious, combined with secular, education, should be supported by voluntary contributions, your Excellency will not be surprised that we cannot conscientiously accept of Government grants for educational purposes, believing that if those who hold influential positions in the community could be sufficiently interested in the progress of education to afford their countenance and support, the necessary amount of instruction would be supplied.

We have in successful operation a theological institution for the training of native ministers, several of whom, having finished their term, are now located in various parts of the island, as pastors of churches; while we contemplate the further extension of that institution, by connecting with it a normal establishment for the training of efficient day-school teachers, and for the instruction of lay students in the higher departments of knowledge.

We beg to assure your Excellency that it will ever be our aim to promote, by our teaching and influence, the loyal and peaceful conduct of the people under our care, as also the right discharge of those social, moral, and religious duties, upon which the welfare of the community depends.

We sincerely trust that the health of your Excellency, and that of your estimable lady, may be long continued; and that under your administration the invaluable blessings of religion and education may be widely and uninterruptedly diffused.

Edward Hewett, Chairman.
Benjamin Millard, Secretary,

REPLY.

Reverend Sirs,

I HAVE received your congratulations on my appointment to the government of this island, with much gratification, and beg to assure you, in return, that I shall be happy on all

all occasions to co-operate with you for the promotion of the moral and social improvement of the large portion of the inhabitants who are in connection with your mission.

Ample opportunity has been afforded me, during my present tour, of judging for myself of the good which has been effected by your labours, in districts very often so remote and difficult of access, that they must otherwise, in all probability, have remained destitute of the means of religious worship or secular instruction; and I should be unworthy of the position I have the honour to fill, were I to permit my personal convictions, as a member of the Established Church, to weaken my testimony as to the great value of the services rendered to the cause of civilisation and humanity by the society to which you belong.

A crisis, indeed, may be said to have arrived, when it behoves all who desire the restoration of Jamaica to its former agricultural and commercial prosperity, to lay aside the minor differences of opinion, and unite cordially for the advancement of their common interests; and I cannot mark more strongly my confidence in the loyal and peaceful character of your teaching, than by declaring that you will ever find me ready to employ the influence derivable from my office for the countenance and support of your mission; and more especially of the numerous and well-conducted educational establishments invariably associated with them, which reflect so much credit, both individually and collectively, upon the ministers of the Baptist denomination.

I thank you most sincerely for your kind wishes for the welfare of Lady Barkly and myself, and trust, with you, that the period of my administration may be distinguished by a progressive advancement in the state of society in this island.

Extract from a Despatch of Sir *Henry Barkly*, May 1854.

"Among the visits paid, with a view of making myself better acquainted with the sentiments of the peasantry, I stopped on two occasions at the principal Baptist stations in St. James, Mount Carey, near the Montpeliers, and Salter's Hill, on the road to Maroon Town, the ministers in charge of which had previously requested me to receive addresses from their assembled congregations. * * * * The advice now given by the Baptist ministers to their flocks is sound enough, and I should be very sorry to see the decline of their influence over them, perceiving, as I do, that no other would replace it, and that if left to themselves in remote localities, the people must inevitably retrograde. * * * * It would obviously be utterly impracticable for the rector or curates of a parish, containing some 300 square miles, to leave the localities to which their duties tie them down for the purpose of following these settlers in the wilderness, and urging them to the erections of chapels and schools, as the Baptists invariably do. That their teaching has, on the whole, been productive of much good, is now, I think, all but universally admitted; and, I am bound to state, that I found their congregations well dressed and orderly, and with every appearance of being, as I believe they are, 'the most civilised portion of the emancipated population.'"

Governor *Eyre*.

In reply to an address from the whole body of the ministers, delegates, and others composing "The Jamaica Baptist Union," on occasion of celebrating the jubilee of the Baptist Mission to this island, his Excellency Governor Eyre was pleased to say:—

"I cannot, gentlemen, close my reply without briefly adverting to the gratifying account which I saw in one of our daily journals that, at your recent meetings at Montego Bay, there could not have been less than 10,000 persons assembled to meet you in celebration of the jubilee, and yet (to use the words of that journal) not a single police case has resulted from this mammoth and memorable demonstration.

"What a contrast the peaceable and orderly assembly, to celebrate a religious service, presents to days gone by. Surely, when the influence of the Christian missionary is so powerful in the preservation of outward conduct and decorum, we may reasonably hope that it is not without its effects upon the inner man; and that as years pass by and successive generations follow each other, the failings and vices of the rural population, in a great degree due to the yet unextinguished and degrading influences of slavery, may give way before the practice and teachings of Christian ministers, and that our country people may become in after years as honest, as industrious, as truthful, and as virtuous, as the peasantry of any other country.

"Persevere, then, gentlemen, in the holy undertaking in which you are engaged, and doubt not that, in His own good time, God will grant an answer to your prayers and a blessing on your labours."

No. 5.

Joseph Sturge and *Thomas Harvey*.

In reply to an address presented to them on the 10th March 1837, by the Baptist Association at Sav-la-Mar, on their visit to this island, they say:—

"Amongst the different chapels and schools which we have visited, none have appeared to us more animated with life and zeal than yours, and we have often been refreshed by the sight and sound of your overflowing assemblies. * * * * We shall ever esteem it a distinguished privilege to have become acquainted, not by report only, but by our own

observation, with the extraordinary and visible results of the Gospel faithfully preached amongst an ignorant and degraded people."

* *Sic* in orig.

Joseph John Gurney, Esq., in his "Winter in the West Indies," 184*, makes frequent mention of the Baptist missionaries, and the effect of their labours in the different districts he visited. We only quote the following, page 98:—

"Who can calculate the moral advantages derived to the negro population from these extensive efforts in the cause of religion; efforts which have been almost doubled in efficacy since the abolition of slavery? That these advantages are at once both great and solid, and appeared to us to be counteracted by no unfair bias, we are bound to bear our unequivocal testimony. We can easily suppose that individual missionaries, during that long continuance of difficulty and conflict to which they have been exposed, have not always confined themselves within the bounds of prudence and moderation. We are ourselves aware of some such instances; but these circumstances are as nothing compared to the general influence of these pious men, in promoting both the temporal and spiritual welfare of all classes of the community. The Baptist missionaries in Jamaica, for many years past, have been the unflinching, untiring friends of the negro. No 'threats' have daunted them, no insults or persecution have driven them from the field. They are now reaping their reward, the devoted attachment of the people and the prevalent acknowledgment of their integrity and usefulness."

Appendix D.

COMPARATIVE VIEW of Number of BAPTIST MINISTERS, CHURCHES, and MEMBERS connected with the BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY in each Parish in *Jamaica*.

County and Parish.	Population.	Number of Baptist Ministers.	Number of Baptist Churches.	Number of Members.
SURREY:				
Kingston	27,359	2	2	*400
Port Royal	7,886	–	–	—
Saint Andrew	23,451	1	4	*300
Saint David	6,452	–	1	509
Saint Thomas-in-the-East	26,229	1	3	286
Portland	8,540	1	2	117
Saint George	9,077	–	1	142
Metcalfe	15,762	2	2	687
TOTAL in County	124,736	7	15	2,441
MIDDLESEX:				
Saint Catherine	12,715	1	1	819
Saint John's	9,301	–	3	284
Saint Dorothy	5,438	1	2	295
Saint Thomas-y-Vale	19,020	2	4	*1,872
Clarendon	24,741	3	10	1,428
Vere	10,098	1	2	264
Manchester	32,745	2	2	387
Saint Mary's	17,106	2	4	1,149
Saint Ann's	36,109	6	11	3,744
TOTAL	167,483	16	39	10,242
CORNWALL:				
Saint Elizabeth	37,777	1	3	346
Westmoreland	33,849	1	4	1,401
Hanover	23,451	2	6	1,746
Saint James	26,904	6	6	2,975
Trelawney	27,066	6	10	3,501
TOTAL in County	149,047	16	29	9,969
GRAND TOTAL	441,266	39	83	22,652
Two Ministers are at present without Pastoral Charges		2		
		41		

It is computed that in general the Members constitute one-third of the persons who attend the Ministry, or are under Ministerial influence. Assuming this as a rough calculation, the number connected with the Baptist Mission stands thus:—

Members	22,652
Inquirers, Sabbath and Day Scholars, Stated and Occasional Hearers, and others	45,304
	67,956

* Proximate Number, no Returns at hand.

Appendix E.

No. 1.—TABULAR, exhibiting a LIST of the more Respectable Persons Arrested, &c. &c.; and the Proportions connected with the different Denominations.

NAMES.	Religious Denomination.	Trade, Office, or Profession.	Supposed Crime.	Residence when Arrested.	Acquitted after Imprisonment.	Punished, or to be Tried.	REMARKS.
G. W. Gordon	Church of England	Merchant, &c.	Rebellion	Kingston	-	Executed.	All the persons arrested were imprisoned at Morant Bay, or at the camp, from three weeks to two months; they were seized at dead of night, their papers seized, and in many cases those arrested only on suspicion were treated as the worst of criminals.
Rev. J. F. Roach	Native Wesleyan Association.	Minister	Sedition	ditto	-	To be tried.	
Rev. Crole	Native Baptist	ditto	ditto	ditto	-	ditto.	Crole was employed by Mr. Gordon.
Alex. Jeffries	Kirk of Scotland	Master carpenter	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	Harry set at liberty on trial, after two months' confinement in a dungeon at Morant Bay.
Thomas Harry	Church of England	Shoemaker	ditto	ditto	-	To be tried.	
Alex. Miller	ditto	Pawnbroker	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	Goldson was flogged for requesting better food, by order of the Provost Marshal. At liberty after two months' confinement in a filthy dungeon at Morant Bay, where he was treated as a criminal. He and Harry were brought to Spanish Town under a writ of Habeas Corpus.
W. M'Cormack	ditto	Wharfinger	ditto	ditto	ditto	—	
J. E. Goldson	Methodist United Church.	Late senior serjeant of police.	ditto	ditto	-	Flogged and to be tried.	
W. R. Smith	Church of England	Late catechist, Church of England.	ditto	ditto	-	ditto - ditto.	
J. M. Vaz	Jew	Proprietor of the "Watchman."	Seditious articles	ditto	No charge.	—	Mr. Davis has been restored to his situation in the Customs, although suspected of secreting gunpowder for the execution of the plot at Christmas.
Rev. E. Palmer	Baptist Union	Minister	Sedition	ditto	-	To be tried.	
N. Harris	Native Baptist	Minister, occasional	ditto	ditto	No charge.	—	Mr. Vinen was arrested on suspicion, being a friend of Mr. Gordon—a truly good man. He was imprisoned at Up Park Camp, and knows much of the transactions there. He is now in England.
Robert Dick	Church of England	Printer	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Robert Davis	ditto	Her Majesty's Customs.	Concealing gunpowder in his house.	ditto	ditto.	—	
R. Vinen, Esq.	Independent	Surgeon dentist	Sedition	ditto	ditto.	—	Morgan, on the execution of the rumoured plot at Christmas, was to be appointed Attorney General instead of his master.
F. Killerman	Church of England	Master builder	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Samuel Clarke	ditto	Vestryman	ditto	St. David's	-	Executed.	
Noel Croswell	Jew	Storekeeper	Shipped gunpowder to Hayti.	Kingston	No charge.	—	Dr. Bruce was seized by a company of volunteers at dead of night, brought under escort, literally bound with cords, and conveyed to Up Park Camp as a criminal, slept there one night only, and immediately after that taken to Morant Bay.
C. G. Morgan	Church of England	Clerk to Attorney General.	Sedition	Spa. Town	ditto.	—	
W. Whitfinch	Baptist	Saddler	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
Dr. Bruce	Church of England	Medical practitioner, and coroner	ditto	Vere	-	To be tried.	
D. P. Nathan	ditto	Solicitor	ditto	Kingston	No charge.	—	
Robert O'Meally	-	Dealer in woods	ditto	Spa. Town	ditto.	—	
Sidney Levien	Jew	Editor "County Union"	Seditious articles	Montego Bay	ditto.	—	
Rev. Mr. Service	Baptist Union	Minister	Sedition	Portland	ditto.	—	
H. J. Lawrence	Church of England	Overseer	ditto	St. Thomas-in-the East.	-	Executed.	
J. S. McPherson	ditto	Usher, National school	ditto	Spa. Town	No charge.	—	

Appendix E—*continued.*

No. 1.—Tabular, exhibiting a List of the more Respectable Persons Arrested, &c. &c.; and the Proportions connected with the Different Denominations—*continued.*

NAMES.	Religious Denomination.	Trade, Office, or Profession.	Supposed Crime.	Residence when Arrested.	Acquitted after Imprisonment.	Punished, or to be Tried.	REMARKS.
Rev. — Warren	American Native Baptist.	Minister	Sedition	Kingston		Executed.	Arrested in the hope of his swearing away the lives of Morgan and Whitfinch (was Robert O'Mealley).
Wm. Silvera	Church of England	Deputy Marshal	ditto	Port Maria	No charge.	—	
Thos. Murray	ditto		ditto	Vere		Flogged.	Mr. Levien arrested under circumstances of great cruelty, and imprisoned six weeks at Morant Bay.
Foster March	ditto	Solicitor's clerk	ditto	Kingston	No charge.	—	
Robert Levy	ditto	Saddler	ditto	St. David's	ditto.	—	
Geo. Warner	ditto	Overseer	ditto	St. John's		Tried and pardoned.	Lawrence tried to save the lives of some of those murdered, and was condemned on very insufficient evidence. He was in Mr. Gordon's employ.
— Henry	ditto	Collector of petty debts.	ditto	Port Royal Mountains.	No charge.	—	
McLean					ditto.	—	
G. N. Williams	Church of England	Clerk	Sedition	Kingston	ditto.	—	McPherson arrested in the hope of swearing away Morgan's life.
J. P. Oeria	Roman Catholic	Head fisherman	ditto	ditto	ditto.	—	
— Duaney	Church of England	Pound-keeper	ditto	Port Royal Mountains.	ditto.	—	Mr. Warren used to preach for Mr. Gordon.
Haitian Refugees.							Thos. Murray was arrested for some expression of doubt as to Mr. Gordon's guilt.
General Lubin	Roman Catholic	Ex-Governor of Port Prince.	Suspected of being concerned in a conspiracy to destroy the white inhabitants, and annex the Island to Hayti.	Kingston	No charge	Ordered off the Island in 14 days, together with others not naturalized, among whom is the late Emperor Solouque, family, and staff.*	Warner was about receiving 50 lashes, but was reprieved on the testimony of a gentleman as to his unexceptionable character, and that his accused had been convicted and punished for perjury.
His three sons Lubin	ditto	Haitien army		ditto	ditto.		
Lubin	ditto	ditto		ditto	ditto.		
Lubin	ditto	ditto		ditto	ditto.		
General Solomon	ditto	ditto		ditto	ditto.		
General Lamothe	ditto	ditto		ditto	ditto.		
And 18 others more or less,	ditto	ditto		ditto	ditto.		
Banuzzi	ditto	A Venetian teacher of languages.	Charged with drawing a plan of Kingston for the use of the conspirators.	Kingston	ditto	—	McLean was at the camp for many days, and was mis-sent to Morant Bay, and remained there for many weeks, when he was released.

* This gentlemen arrived in this Island after having been in many campaigns with Garibaldi, and was engaged as a teacher of languages with Rev. Mr. Radcliffe's Collegiate School, in Kingston, and being about to return to Italy, drew a plan of Kingston to carry with him. This explodes the famous plot for the destruction of the white inhabitants of Kingston, on Christmas Day, now happily passed over in peace. Similarly has vanished the "Ignis fatuus" of a widely extended conspiracy. There was no such thing, as will be testified from every district in the Island. It is apprehended that this impression was given to throw dust in the eyes of the people of England, and to justify the tragedy that has been enacted at St. Thomas-in-the-East. The above gentleman says that he has been in prisons in Italy, but was never so shamefully treated as by the authorities here.

Appendix E.

No. 2.—Totals exhibiting the Numbers respectively connected with the different Denominations arrested.

Church of England - -	25	Of these 2 executed -	3	To be tried.
Native Wesleyan - -	1	- - - - -	1	- ditto.
Independents - - -	1	Dismissed without charge.		
Methodist United Church -	1	- - - - -	1	To be tried.
Jews - - - -	3	Dismissed without charge.		
Native Baptists - -	3	- ditto - ditto.		
Connected with B. M. Society.	3	- ditto - ditto -	1	To be tried.
Roman Catholics - -	25	All dismissed without charge.		
Denomination Unknown -	2			
	64	Total - -	6	To be tried.

Appendix F.

No. 1.

Resolution adopted after having been spoken to at the Anniversary of Chapel Openings at Salter's Hill and Maldon, in 1865 :—

"That this meeting passing by, for the present, the policy that ought to be pursued by the Legislature, considers that some of the means to be employed in order to prove the temporal and spiritual interests of the colony are :—the spread of education, the prevalence of a spirit of persevering industry, and the right discharge of our personal relative and religious duties, accompanied with earnest prayer to God, that His blessing may be more fully enjoyed, and that He may once more cause prosperity to abound in our midst."

Resolution discussed and adopted at the Anniversary of Freedom :—

"That this meeting urges upon all connected with the church and congregation the importance of prayer to God for a revival of religion, and for the cessation of crime; as well as the necessity laid upon them by setting an example of honesty, sobriety, and industry, of constant attendance on the means of grace, of care in training up their children, of zealous support of day and Sunday schools, and the religious institutions of the land, to elevate the community, and promote the prosperity of all classes."

No. 2.

Read at the Annual Meeting of the Jamaica Baptist Union, 1856, and adopted.

"*The connection between Social Habits and Personal Religion.*

"The Circular Letter for 1856, of the Jamaica Baptist Union, by *D. J. East*, Calabar Institution.

"Circular Letter.

"Dear Brethren,

"As the pastors of the churches composing the 'Jamaica Baptist Union,' we have a few words to say to you on the subject appointed at our last annual meeting for consideration at this. That subject, it will be remembered, was, 'The connection between social habits and personal religion.'

"A habit is any particular line of conduct, to which, by its frequent repetition, a person has become so familiar, as to be predisposed to it; so that habit is said to be second nature. We do not, however, confound nature and habit with each other. Nature includes whatever dispositions and appetites are born with us into the world. Habits are acquired. Thus we do not talk of eating and drinking as a habit, because we do this according to natural appetite; but we do speak of a habit of eating and drinking to excess, because this is acquired by repeated indulgence.

"By social habits we mean those acts of social life which are of daily occurrence, and which, as they are performed in our intercourse with those around us, are more or less open to the observation of others. Thus, for example, if a man is known to be always true to his engagements; if having made an appointment, physical impossibilities not interposing, he is sure to keep it; if having promised to be at some particular place at a specified time, you know that he will be there at the stroke of the clock; if, should he be a church member, you feel certain that, at the opening of class, or at the commencement of public worship, he will be there, whoever else may be absent, you say that he is a punctual man. With him punctuality is a habit. And, inasmuch as punctuality belongs to the intercourse between man and man, we call it a social habit.

"So, in like manner if a man is accustomed to speak evil of his neighbours; if he is prone to say of another in his absence what he would not say to him in his presence; if he is ready to take up every idle rumour to another's prejudice, and to circulate it, if he takes a pleasure in such defamatory gossipping, and is disposed to magnify, rather than to extenuate the scandal, we call such a man a backbiter and a slanderer; and, inasmuch as backbiting and slandering take place in social life, we call them social habits.

"And so again if a man be negligent in his person; if, for instance, he goes to his provision ground in the morning, and returning home at night, goes to bed without washing from his skin the dirt which must have accumulated upon it; if he is contented to go about in filthy raiment or in rags, which hardly cover his nakedness; if, on Sundays, or on holidays, his slouching hat, and ill-shapen coat, and half-tied cravat, with his grimy hands and face, show that he has no respect for his personal appearance, we say that such a man is slovenly, and wanting in cleanliness; and inasmuch as slovenliness and filthiness are social offences, so they come under the denomination of social habits.

"Now, there are some professing Christians who seem to imagine that religion and social habits stand in no relation to each other. They are accustomed to think of religion as a subject isolated and apart from all other subjects. They admit the sublimity of its doctrines, and the elevated character of the affections it is calculated to excite, while they commonly attach undue importance to the ceremonial observances it enjoins. But with many this is all. Religion is divorced from social life, and treated as though it had nothing to do with social duties. With such individuals a man may be ever so wanting in punctuality, without any reflection upon his religious profession; he may be ever so much given to backbiting and slander, and yet be a saint in personal piety; his habits may be filthy and slovenly without the forfeiture of his religious character.

Practically, indeed, we have too much reason to fear that such sentiments are widely prevalent in all lands, and amongst all classes of Christian people. But whatever the practice of the members of our churches associated in this 'Union,' we have the satisfaction of knowing that no sentiments can be in more direct opposition to the religious teachings you have been accustomed to receive.

"On the character of their teaching your ministers may confidently make their appeal to you as witnesses. They have, indeed, endeavoured to make the grand distinctive doctrines of the Gospel the chief topics of their ministry, proclaiming a full and free salvation through faith in the atoning blood and righteousness of Christ. They have laboured to bring you under the constraining influence of a Saviour's love; and have sought to win over your best affections to him. And while they have warned you against attaching a saving efficacy to ceremonial observances of any kind, solemnly assuring you that in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision availeth anything nor uncircumcision, but a new creature, they have never failed to defend and enforce obedience to Divine institutions.

"But with all this, must you not, dear brethren, bear them record, that your ministers have never failed to insist upon your religious obligations in relation to the practical duties of social life? Have they not always maintained the connection between the two? Have they not again and again urged upon you the necessity of exemplifying the one in the other? And have they ever ceased to denounce the inconsistency of making a profession of religion, while social duties are neglected, and social obligations violated?

"No, brethren! And under a deep conviction of the importance of such views they now invite your earnest and prayerful attention to the subject which they have to submit for your consideration at this annual session of our associated churches. It presents itself under a two-fold aspect. The influence of personal religion over our social habits, and the influence of social habits over our personal religion.

"I. Personal religion, having its seat in the affections of the heart, asserts its supremacy over the whole man,—body, soul, and spirit. It claims a right to reign in every department of human conduct, in every relation of life. We know of no condition,—no circumstances in which we can be placed, in which it does not meet us with its injunctions, or in which it does not lay down some principles to regulate our actions.

"It asserts its authority in the domestic circle. It addresses itself to husbands, and to them it says, 'Husbands, love your wives.' It addresses itself to wives, and to them it says, 'Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands.' It addresses itself to children, and to them it says, 'Children, obey your parents; honour your father and mother.' It addresses itself to parents, and to them it says, 'Ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.'

"Religion takes its stand in the servants' yard, and to them it says, 'Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh.' It speaks with the same

authority

authority to masters, and to them it says, 'Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal.'

"It follows with its injunctions the overseer and the labourer into the cane-field and the boiling-house, and it requires the one 'not to oppress an hired servant,' while it prohibits the other from the commission of those petty thefts to which multitudes are addicted.

"It meets man and man in the daily intercourse of life,—in the provision ground, the market-place, and the store, and with all the force of Divine authority, it says, 'Lie not one to another;' 'speak the truth every man to his neighbour;' 'Provide things honest in the sight of all men;' 'Put away all anger and clamour, and evil speaking, with all malice.' It requires us not only to 'do justly,' but to 'love mercy;' 'to do good and to communicate.' It points us to the house of mourning, and sums up all practical religion in this, 'to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.'

"Now, who, in the face of these injunctions, shall deny the connection between our social habits and our personal religion; and what must we think of those who, either in doctrine or in practice, attempt to divorce the one from the other?

"Nor is this all. Religion is not only an authority, it is a power. Not only in all our social relations does it meet us with its injunctions, it is eminently adapted to exert the most potent influence over us in them.

"1. Social duties are enforced by social obligations. But how high the obligations by which religion enforces them! You are a master, and you are laid under certain obligations to those who serve you, by the nature of the compact made and the relation subsisting between you. But religion reminds you of still higher relations and responsibilities. It points you to an authority to which masters and servants are equally accountable. It tells you of a tribunal at which both will be judged. Or, on the other hand, you are a servant; religion enforces the duties which you owe to your earthly master, not only by the obligations which, from the nature of the relation, you owe to him, but by what you owe to your master in heaven. It requires you to serve, 'not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service as to the Lord, and not to men, knowing, that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

"2. Religion, again, not only adds to social obligations, the weight of its solemn sanctions, but it brings to bear upon them the force of motives the most powerful and persuasive. Does it, for example, require wives to submit to their own husbands? It is 'as unto the Lord; for the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ also is the head of the church, and he is the Saviour of the body. Therefore, as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.' Or does it, on the other hand, require husbands to love their wives? It is, 'even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water, by the word that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies.'

"3. But yet, once more, religion places man and man in new relations to each other, adapted to sanctify and sweeten all their social intercourse. When Paul in his epistle to Philemon commends to him his returning slave Onesimus, he bids him welcome him, 'Not now as a servant, but above a servant, a brother beloved.' Christianity does not snap asunder any of our social ties, but it forms others which cannot fail to affect beneficially those which had a prior existence.

"Endearing, for instance, as is the relation between husband and wife, Christianity unites them by closer and yet more lasting bonds; for it constitutes them fellow heirs of the grace of life. So again, the compact between master and servant may be strong and binding, but Christianity places them both under a compact stronger still, for both must equally say, 'One is our master, even Christ, and we are brethren.' How sweetening and sanctifying the influence, which the consciousness of these spiritual relations must exert! What sweet submissiveness should they induce in the wife to her husband! and what devoted affection on the part of the husband to the wife! what self-sacrificing fidelity in servants to their masters! and what equity, forbearance, and generosity, on the part of masters to them.

"4. Religion, yet further, induces a state of mind which predisposes to the discharge of social obligations. Why is it that the past history of the world has been little more than a long catalogue of social crimes? Why is it, that, to use the language of inspiration in describing its condition, 'it is filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful?' What is it that has produced this picture of social wickedness? May it not be traced to the fact, that men are alienated from God? Is not this the primary cause, that 'the carnal mind is enmity against God, and is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be?'

"And what is it, that shall most surely change the scene? What but that religion which begins its operations in reconciling the creature to the Creator! and which, while it pro-

claims glory to God in the highest, publishes peace on earth, goodwill towards men! and which in its ultimate and universal diffusion shall accomplish the visions of prophecy, and produce the realisation of that social millennium in which 'the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.'

"Let us then, dear brethren, never for a moment imagine that our religion and our social duties can be separated from each other. Religion enjoins them with all the potency of its authority, and is pre-eminently adapted to exert the mightiest influence in favour of a full and efficient discharge of them. And hence, having made a profession of religion, we invite you solemnly to consider that your pastors,—your fellow Christians,—the world at large, expect your piety to be exemplified, not only in the discharge of what you are accustomed to look upon in a specific sense as your religious duties, but in the better discharge of the duties of social and every-day life,—in the improvement of all your social habits.

"We expect you, indeed, to fulfil your obligations as church members. Your leaders have a right to look for your punctual attendance at the class-house, and your ministers upon the public worship of God. Your fellow members have a right to expect from you all the offices of Christian kindness and affection. Those who serve you in the gospel of Christ, and thereby minister unto you in spiritual things, have a right to expect from you such a supply of your carnal things as are needful to their daily sustenance. And the cause of Him whose you are, and whom you profess to serve, has a right to expect that you consecrate yourself unreservedly to its advancement.

"But, dear brethren, we wish at this annual gathering of our associated churches, to admonish you, that you must not sum up all religion in what may be more strictly denominated religious duties. No, brethren! your religion must be exemplified in your every-day life—it must be seen in all your social habits.

"Your personal appearance, brethren, must testify to your personal piety. Cleanliness is nearly allied to godliness. Dress is often an index of character; and religion, while it frowns upon frivolity and extravagance in it demands a due regard to decency. Women, especially, are required to "adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broidered hair, or gold, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works—the apostle thus forbidding on the one hand that love of finery and display which vanity indulges to attract attention, and, on the other hand that negligence of attire which, leaving the person half exposed, either serves as a bait to the licentiousness of wicked men, or excites the blush of shame in the right-minded passer by.

"Your homes, again, as well as your persons, should bear witness to your religion. O! what a picture of order and neatness—of cleanliness and propriety—of concord and peace—of kindness and love—should be every Christian dwelling. The humblest cottage of a Christian man should be a model home. We should expect it to surpass others in the neatness of its structure and the excellence of its materials. While another man might be satisfied with a rude hut of thatched covering and mud walls, we should expect to see the godly man rearing a house of substantial timbers and shingled roof. We should look in it for a comfortably boarded floor, kept clean and bright, with "mason" or "Spanish walls," nicely limewashed both within and without. We should expect to see its arrangements presenting an air of comfort and propriety; rooms in it adapted to the different purposes of domestic accommodation, so that grown-up sons and daughters, and parents with younger children, may not at night have to herd together in the same apartment. We should expect to see it with at least some articles of useful furniture. We should look for chairs and tables, not for blocks of wood and of stone as their substitutes. We should expect to see the husband and wife with their little ones sitting down together to their meals at the same board; not the wife standing by like a slave while her tyrant master devours his food, after which she and her children, like pigs, eat in this corner or in that, or mess together from the iron pot without any regard to decency. And in the morning, before the labour of the day begins, and in the evening, when it has come to a close, we should expect to see the head of the household gathering its members around the domestic altar, to be instructed from the word of God, and to unite by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to make known to Him their requests. Your homes, brethren, should bear witness to your piety.

"So also should your religion be conspicuous in every domestic relation. The wife should be able to bear witness that religion makes the man a better husband; and the husband that it makes the woman a better wife. Your children should be able to testify that you are better parents; and your parents that you are better children; your masters that you are better servants; and your servants that you are better masters. If the husband be tyrannical, if the wife be refractory, if children be disobedient, and parents harsh and cruel, if masters be unjust and oppressive, and servants be unfaithful and dishonest, what must we think of their Christianity?

"Nor should the influence of religion be conspicuous in your domestic relations alone. It should be seen in all the daily intercourse of life. You are buying or selling in the market

market-place or the store; you should be known as a Christian in all your transactions. A man is selling to a neighbour a barrel of sugar; not knowing the state of the markets, he offers it at a price below its market value; worldly selfishness would take advantage of his ignorance, but Christian principle would scorn to do so, and would give him the worth of his commodity; does he offer it for 10 dollars when it is worth a dollar more, it would voluntarily give him 11. Some months ago a gentleman purchased a barrel of sugar, which, between the time of the sale and the delivery, lost somewhat in bulk and weight. Before it was opened, the seller having suspected from the quantity of molasses which had run out that this was the case, called upon the buyer and requested to see it; and on ascertaining that his suspicions were well-founded, at once, spontaneously and unasked, made a suitable abatement upon the price. This was Christian principle, this was religion carried out and exemplified in social life.

"Many of you are working on pens and estates; some in the cane-field, and others in the boiling house. In such service, professors of religion mingle with men of the world. Many of the practices, in connection with such occupations, are known to be dishonest, and others are too abominable to be named. The practice of cane and sugar stealing is proverbial, and so common that numbers hardly regard it as a sin. That men of no religion should be chargeable with such practices is, perhaps, not surprising; but that men calling themselves Christians should be guilty of them is a contradiction which it is impossible to reconcile. No, brethren, in such associations there should be a marked distinction between you and others. The overseer and the book-keeper should be able to point to any one of you, and say, 'I know that man; I can trust him; he never steals. I need never uncover his "can" as he leaves the boiling-house; he would not carry away an ounce of sugar which I had not given to him; he is a Christian.'

"In daily service you have property entrusted to you; oxen, and wains, and mules, and horses; and very often in your various occupations you must be left without the eye of any superior upon you. Religious principle should be all-sufficient to make you faithful. Some years ago a company of slaves were assembled together for the worship of God. They had no minister amongst them, and, therefore, one of their own number was endeavouring to edify the rest. He had for his text the words of the apostle, 'But now being made free from sin, and become servants of God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.' In the course of his address he had to explain what is meant by holiness. He did not attempt any refined or elaborate definition; but he reminded his brethren that sometimes master was with them, and sometimes master was away. 'Now this,' said he, 'is holiness, to work as well when master's eye is not upon us, as when it is.' And truly, brethren, whatever may be wanting in this explanation of holiness, it describes the conduct which should characterize every servant professing godliness.

"Many of you, once more, are the possessors of houses and lands, or the occupants of 'grounds' neighbouring to others. You are also the owners of fowls, and pigs, and goats, and horses. Your neighbours are growers of provision as well as yourselves; and their produce is as valuable to them as yours is to you. They are bound to respect your rights, and you are under the same obligation to respect theirs. You, moreover, are professing Christians, and, possibly, they are not. They are indeed required, as well as you, to do unto others as they would that others should do unto them. But your profession of religion lays you under still higher obligation; and whatever may be said of them, they ought to be able to feel the most perfect security in their neighbourhood to you. It should never be possible for any one to say of you that you willingly allow your fowls, or your pigs, or your goats, or your horses, to trespass on your neighbour's property. Religious principle should constrain you to protect his grounds from depredation as you would your own; for Christianity not only requires you to do that which is just and equal, it commands you to 'love your neighbour as yourself.'

"II. But we wish now to say a few words on the second aspect of our subject. Having shown you how personal religion aims to influence our social habits, how well adapted it is to do so, and how it ought to influence them; we wish further to show you how our social habits also influence our personal religion.

"In its nature and essential characteristics true religion is uniform. It is the same in all ages, under all dispensations, in all countries, and amongst all people. It may, however, exist in different degrees; and it admits of many modifications. Now, of all agencies which are likely to influence the measure and to modify the character of our personal piety, perhaps none are more powerful than our social habits. This will be best explained and illustrated by looking at some few points in which this is especially likely to be the case.

1. "The claims of religion are paramount over all others. It claims not only a place in every man's regard, but the highest. It requires that all else should be subordinated to it. 'Seek first,' said the Saviour, when dissuading his disciples against an inordinate regard for earthly things, 'seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.'

"Now, brethren, we know of nothing more likely to affect our personal religion,—and to affect it injuriously,—in the ascendency to which it rightfully lays claim, than many of our prevailing social habits. The spirit of the world and the spirit of religion are antagonist to each other: insomuch that John says, 'If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him:' and Paul commands us, 'To come out from the world, to

be separate; and to touch not the unclean thing.' Just in proportion, therefore, as our social habits are chargeable with worldly conformity, must they be inimical to true piety; and religion fail to have its rightful pre-eminence.

"And how many of the social habits which prevail, even among professing Christians, assume this character. Look, for instance, at that habit of ornament and finery in dress, which has already been incidentally adverted to. How often has religion been sacrificed at its shrine! Do you see a young female decked out in frills and flounces unbecoming her station, with gayest coloured flowers and ribbons on her bonnet, a gilded chain and showy strings of beads around her neck, her fingers covered with rings, and heavy weights pendant from her ears? To what conclusion are you inevitably driven in regard to her personal piety? Is it religion, or the love of finery in dress that has the ascendancy? Examine her church-member's 'ticket,' and you will find that while she spends pounds upon the decoration of her person, she hardly contributes 1 *s.* a year to the cause of God. Ask her 'class' and her closet, and you will find that the preparation of her dress and her personal adornment absorb so much time that she has little to spare for the exercises of social or private devotion. Here, then, is a social habit, the effect of which is manifestly to destroy the ascendency of religion in the heart.

"And nearly allied to this is another social habit in which a similar effect is observed. It is evidently the duty of every man, woman, and child, to appear in the house of God, on the Lord's day, in clean and decent attire. And no doubt with proper forethought and management, every man, woman, and child, except in cases of affliction, might invariably do so.

"But circumstances sometimes transpire in this country to interfere with the washing of clothes for the uses of the Sabbath. Now in such circumstances, what is the prevailing practice? A minister misses Thomas James or James Thomas, or some other 'somebody,' from chapel, and inquires the cause. How commonly is he told that his wife or his mother was unable to get up his clean clothes, and so he was obliged to stay at home. Or, there is a thin attendance on the Sunday services. What can be the reason? The sun arose without a cloud; the day is fine; there is no prospect of rain; you would think there was nothing to hinder your people from attendance on the public worship of God. But there was rain on Friday, and perhaps on Saturday; and the family linen has not been got ready for Sunday wear. And so, because Sunday clothes are not available for use, the Sunday must be profaned and prostituted to sloth and idleness; the house of God must be forsaken; the means of grace must be disregarded; and the soul's spiritual improvement neglected.

"Now, what is this but sacrificing religion to the world; showing a higher regard to external appearance, than to the cultivation of inward piety; paying more deference to man who looks upon the outward appearance, than to God who looks upon the heart. So true is it that our social habits may interfere with the supremacy of godliness.

2. "But again, our social habits may not only interfere with the ascendency of religion, they may also have an important influence over its general tone. True religion should ennoble, elevate, and sanctify the spirit. If the tone of our personal piety be what it ought to be, it will raise our thoughts and our affections above earthly things; it will dispose us habitually to pursue those which are heavenly and eternal; and, transforming us into the Divine image, it will make us meet for the Divine presence in a bright and sinless world.

"But how banefully, in this respect, may our piety be influenced by our social habits. No doubt to keep up its spirituality we need to exercise the most constant watchfulness and care. And yet there are some social habits prevailing amongst us most inimical to it.

"God has graciously given to us the Sabbath to promote our growth in grace, and to afford us a special season for increasing in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. To this end he has appointed the public services of the sanctuary and the preaching of his word. And the attendance of a large congregation on the Lord's day on the public means of grace, is one of the most cheering and animating spectacles it is possible to witness. As we see them flocking to the house of God; as we observe them quietly and devoutly taking their seats; as we look down from the pulpit upon their anxious and interesting countenances while listening to the exposition of Christian truth; as we do this we augur well for their spiritual advancement, and we are cheered and comforted by the persuasion that our labours as ministers of the gospel are not in vain in the Lord.

"But the service comes to a close; the benediction is pronounced; the minister vacates the sacred desk; and the people leave the house in which they have been worshipping. And, then, alas! our hearts begin to fail us. What noise is that which we hear almost upon the threshold? What a clatter of tongues!—almost like the confusion of Babel! What loud talking and laughter! We fear that Solomon would liken it to the 'crackling of thorns:' for he says, 'As the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool!' And what are the topics of their discourse? The sermon? The service? The soul? Alas! no. Too frequently they are nothing more than the health of the body, or the temporal welfare of the family; or worse, they are yams and cocos, bread fruit and plantains, goats and pigs, cattle and horses, houses and lands, markets and wages, taxes and tax papers. And so it happens that the conversation, and mirth, and laughter which take place at our chapel doors, drive out all the devout, and holy, and heavenly affections which the sermon and the service may, under the Divine blessing, have originated.

"Now,

"Now, brethren, we have no admiration of that starched and pharisaic stiffness which, in leaving the house of prayer, cannot unbend to a friendly recognition; we delight in the Christian greeting of brother with brother in tones of Christian affection; and we think the close of a Christian service, at which all have been uniting in worship around the footstool of a common Saviour, a time eminently suited for words of fraternal kindness and affection. But we must deprecate a prevailing practice in many of our congregations, of seizing upon it as a season for noisy salutations and uproarious gossipping about worldly concerns. We believe, brethren, that this is a social habit which tends to chase away the salutary impressions of a religious service, and to destroy those spiritual fruits which may have been produced, and might otherwise have been carried away.

"In connection with this, we may advert to another social habit, which, we have reason to fear, prevails extensively in some districts, especially amongst the young.

"The congregation has concluded its greetings after the mid-day service, and the chapel yard is once more left in silence and in solitude, except it be from the footstep of some worthy deacon, or of some anxious inquirer, or of some troubled believer, who has remained for a season in discourse with 'minister.' But what has become of the numerous groups of young Christians whom we so lately observed? Have they retired quietly one by one to their homes, and shall we find them in the porch of their dwellings, or under the pleasant shade of some spreading tree, poring over their Bibles; seeking to digest in retirement, and in solitary meditation and prayer, the precious truths, to the announcement of which they have been listening? This would be a goodly scene. Such a habit, how eminently adapted would it be to raise the tone of the religious character, and to advance the piety and spirituality of the young professor.

"But alas! brethren, we find too many in different scenes, and pursuing different avocations. They have gone on a journey which they had planned on Saturday. They are walking or riding to some distant village on a visit to friends or relatives. You may meet these young women flaunting on the way, and the young men swaggering along with smoking cigars in their mouths. They reach their destination, and there they spend the evening in idle and frivolous conversation, and return home late at night with wearied bodies and dissipated minds; and it is well, if under the power of temptation, they have not fallen into gross and scandalous sin.

"O, brethren, we fear that in some districts, at least, this desecration of sacred hours by Sunday visiting is often the bane of religion, destroying all spirituality of mind and hindering all religious advancement. Could we witness such habits, as in some Christian associations we have known to be adopted, on the evening of the Lord's day; could we see the Christian father, immediately after public service, conducting his family to his home; could we see him after the needed refreshment had been taken, gathering his wife and little ones around his door, while he, seated in the midst of them, acting as minister of the household; could we see him with his open Bible reading to them the truth of God, or each of his children reading in turn to him; could we see him catechising the family group in the divine knowledge they had acquired; and then could we hear them uniting their voices in family prayer and praise; could we thus observe them cultivating "piety at home," then, brethren, we should have hope for the piety and spirituality of our churches, religion would flourish, and the cause of God would triumph.

"But if, on the contrary, God's day be profaned by devoting a large portion of it to needless journeying, and mere visits of pleasure and of idle gossipping, depend upon it, vital godliness will become extinct, and our church members will be 'clouds without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.'

"3. But not needlessly to multiply illustrations, we may add, that our social habits may influence our personal piety, not only as to its ascendency and general tone, but also as to its purity and sanctity. Christians are called to be saints, *i. e.* persons sacredly set apart to purity of heart and life. Holiness to the Lord enters primarily into the composition of Christian character, and is the essential and all pervading element of true piety. It is that without which religion is a mere name, and the professor of religion a deceiver and a hypocrite.

"Now, of all offences against Christian purity, none are in Scripture censured more strongly than those which are also violations of chastity. The believer is solemnly admonished to 'cleanse himself from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.' And yet what must be said, dear brethren, of many of the social habits and customs still prevalent amongst us? What numbers are annually excluded from the fellowship of the church, and how large a proportion of these for the sin of fornication! while we have reason to fear that multitudes are chargeable with sins of uncleanness which never come under church discipline.

"Now, how does this happen? From whence does such a state of society proceed, that even the church of God should be deluged with its pollutions? We are, indeed, persuaded that if true religion reigned with greater power in all hearts, these abounding abominations would be restrained, and the church be kept comparatively pure. But we have, at the same time, a strong conviction that many of the social habits prevailing amongst us, largely contribute to their existence.

"We make our appeal to those of you who have large experience and most opportunities of observation; and what we ask you, is the effect of those mixed 'gangs' in

which men and women, boys and girls, are worked promiscuously together in the same cane-piece? What is the influence of the loose and negligent manner in which they are too often attired? What is the result of young men and women being allowed, as is sometimes the case, to be sleeping at night about the still and the boiling-house during crop-time? Have fathers and mothers nothing to answer for, in the examples which they set their children, and the deportment which they sometimes exhibit in their presence? Is their behaviour always such, as to inculcate purity and modesty? Are not our old people sometimes especially blameable for setting the young patterns of immodesty and indecency in dress, instead of being patterns of propriety?—What must be said of the influence of domestic arrangements in some families, where there is but one sleeping-room for the household, and the younger and the elder mingle together? What again, in the case of young persons engaged to be married to each other, what must be said of the practice of the young woman washing and cooking for the young man, and waiting upon him, and performing many of the offices of a wife, before she becomes so? And what, once more, must be said of the lightness with which the sin of fornication is treated, especially if the shame of it be eventually covered by marriage, so that married men and women, and church members will attend the weddings of such parties, and discharge the duties of bridesmen and bridesmaids with the same cheerfulness and alacrity as if the previous connection had been ever so honourable.

"Brethren, we verily believe all these social habits are either offences against the Christian law of chastity, or that they tend to its violation! And we have a strong conviction that, until they be reformed, we shall still have to deplore the abounding iniquity which is at once the shame and the curse of the church of Christ in this land!

"4. There are also other social habits which tend most injuriously to affect the integrity and uprightness of religious principle. Religion inculcates the most scrupulous regard to truth and equity. 'Owe no man anything, but to love one another.' 'Let no man defraud his brother in any matter.' 'Walk honestly towards them that are without.' 'Let him that stole, steal no more, but rather let him labour, working with his hands.' These are the injunctions of true religion. A truly consistent Christian man, therefore, is upright in all his dealings, having a supreme regard to the will of God, resolved to maintain a conscience void of offence in the sight of God and man. He would rather cut off a right hand, or pluck out a right eye, than violate these requirements. And yet how much laxity of principle, not to say want of integrity and uprightness, is often observable amongst Christian professors. And who can calculate to what extent many of the social habits prevalent amongst us contribute to it?

"Look, for instance, at some of the habits of trade. You enter a store to make some purchases. To say nothing of divers weights, and divers measures, both of which are alike abomination to the Lord—to say nothing of lying representations as to the quality of goods exposed for sale, and the trickeries which are sometimes perpetrated to increase profits and drive a trade—to say nothing of these things, with some—we hope many—honourable exceptions, what security have you that you shall be dealt with in fairness and honesty? How abominable is the prevailing practice of demanding for articles a price exorbitantly greater than that at which they are intended to be sold! You buy some commodity, not knowing its market value, and are charged double its worth. A gentleman some time ago sent to a respectable store for an article he required, and was charged six times its price in the retail market at home. He sent again for half the quantity of the very same, and the half was charged as much as the whole. Another gentleman goes into a store and sees an article which he needs. He demands its price. It so happens that he had been in trade himself, and was able to read the private marks of the storekeeper. He is asked four or five times its actual cost: and when he offers a smller sum, allowing to the seller a handsome profit, he is solemnly assured that it would be less than he gave for it. The buyer confesses his secret and the merchant is confounded.

"Now, what must be the influence of such trading habits on society? Mutual confidence between the buyer and the seller must be destroyed. Dishonesty on the one side begets dishonesty on the other. A system of overcharging leads to a system of beating down. The merchant tries to overreach his customer, the customer endeavours to outwit the merchant. The seller asks more than he means to take; the buyer offers less than he is willing to give. Principle on the part both of the one and the other is abandoned; and while the seller attempts to extort more than the value of his goods, 'It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer; and when he is gone his way, then he boasteth.' The practice of the storekeeper becomes the practice of the market; the small dealer follows in the wake of the large; and thus the morals and the religion of the whole community are injured.

"5. One word more. Personal religion should be permanent and abiding. It is described in Scripture as a 'well of water springing up into everlasting life;' and as 'incorruptible seed which liveth and abideth for ever:' and we are admonished to be 'stedfast and unmovable,' and to be 'faithful even unto death.' In assuming a profession of religion, therefore, we do not take upon us a vocation, which we are at liberty, at some future time, to lay aside; but one which we are to pursue as long as life shall last. 'No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.'

"Now our social habits may conduce either to our firmness and stability or they may tend to shake our stedfastness. Suppose all our social habits to be under the influence of religious principle—suppose that in all our personal and domestic arrangements we had a supreme regard to its dictates—suppose that in all our social intercourse in all relations

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our conduct was under its immediate direction; how would our social habits, on the other hand, co-operate to promote our piety. Our religion and our social habits would exert a reflex influence upon each other; and religion forming and improving our social habits, our social habits would confirm, and strengthen, and establish our religious characters. But when our social habits are inimical to personal religion—when, as in some of the illustrations which have been offered, they are at variance with its sanctions and its aims, how inevitably must they result in weakening its power, and in destroying its stability. In the one case social habits fortify the religious character, in the other they lay it open to the assaults of every spiritual foe.

"There is one class of social habits, which appear to us to be eminently calculated to have this latter effect. We live in a rum-producing country, where, therefore, ardent spirits are very accessible to the masses of our people. But, withal, candour compels us to acknowledge that drunkenness is not the crying sin of Jamaica. Some of us have seen more drunkenness in the streets of London in a single week than we have in Jamaica through all the years of our residence in it. Still, drinking habits are very prevalent amongst us. Large potions of rum are daily drunk on the estates during crop time. Rum is kept in many houses as a constant beverage: and to offer a drink of it is regarded as a token of hospitality. Large quantities, we have reason to believe, are consumed in this way; while rum shops are found in every locality, and are seen everywhere to be driving a thriving trade. While, therefore, there is not perhaps a large amount of beastly intoxication there is a vast amount of "drinking;" and numbers, who are not in the habit of getting absolutely and uncontrollably drunk, are in the habit of drinking to such excess as to be under the influence of the intoxicating liquor.

"Now what is the influence of this habit?—The very moment strong drink gets into the head it dethrones the reason; the balance of the mental faculties is overturned; the moral sense is obscured and enfeebled; the passions are left without control; the animal appetites are excited; lust and anger are commonly enkindled; and the man consequently becomes an easy prey to every sin. And hence we believe that, on investigation, strong drink will be found, in numberless instances, to be the primary cause of many of the evils which afflict our churches. A man or woman is excluded for fornication. In numerous instances it was strong drink which either provoked the crime or made them the willing slaves of the destroyer of their chastity and their souls. A quarrel has sprung up between two or more individuals; angry words have been succeeded by blows; the Christian name has been disgraced and dishonoured; and ministers and people have to hang down their heads with shame in the eyes of the world. In what numberless cases strong drink has either originated or stimulated the feud! Sin being committed, and dishonour ensuing upon it, the wretched backslider "makes shipwreck of faith and of a good conscience," and is at "last drowned in perdition."

"But, brethren, we must pause. Our subject is not exhausted; but we have already extended this letter to too great length: and we fear have wearied out your patience. And yet there are some other points of personal religion in connexion with which we should like to have illustrated the power of social habits; and there are some other social habits, in particular, to which it might have been useful to advert; such, for example, as the practice of husbands and wives keeping up a separate interest, having two pockets and two cupboards; the want of courtesy and attention to each other on the part of husband and wife, seen, for instance, in the rude and disrespectful manner in which they will speak to one another, in their walking alone to public worship, or one on before another instead of together, and occupying different seats in the house of God, instead of side by side; the harsh and cruel treatment of children, allowing them at one time to roam wild and without restraint, and at another punishing them with greater severity than you would your dogs or horses; the want of truthfulness in the common intercourse of life, and the practice of lying and deceiving, whenever an end is to be answered by it; the habit, again, of covering up gross and crying sins until a quarrel provokes a disclosure; the habit of setting so little value upon time as to squander away hours and days in trifling and idleness; and the prevailing practice, with numbers, of attending public worship only on preaching or ordinance Sundays, so that they are not seen in the house of prayer more than once a fortnight or once a month. All these are habits most baneful in their tendency, and we should have been glad of the opportunity to dwell upon them. But for the present we must leave them.

"Enough, however, has been said to elucidate the connection between social habits and religious character; and, in doing this, to show how on the one hand our personal religion should influence our social habits, and, on the other hand, how our social habits influence our personal religion.

"Some of these habits, it is indeed most painful and humiliating to contemplate. We might possibly, in some cases, have selected for illustration others of a pleasing character; and that we have not always done so you may be assured has arisen from no desire to hold up to view the deformities of our social system, but from a simple, earnest, and affectionate purpose, as your ministers, to adopt that course which seemed most likely to advance your highest interests. We are not accustomed to address you in the 'enticing words of man's wisdom,' but with 'great plainness of speech.' Our office is not to flatter, but to instruct and improve; and, when necessary, to 'reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine.' It is ours, as the ambassadors of Christ, to 'declare the whole counsel of God, whether men will hear, or whether they will forbear.' And hence, on this occasion, we have endeavoured to write with all boldness and fidelity.

"And now, in conclusion, we are most anxious to impress upon you the practical importance of the subject, which we hereby submit to your solemn and prayerful consideration. Do you desire to advance in a life of personal piety? Are you forgetting the things that are behind, and reaching forward to those which are before, pressing toward the mark for the prize of your high calling of God in Christ Jesus? Your social habits may either facilitate your Christian progress, or they may prove your worst impediments in running the race set before you. Are you desirous of living, not only for yourself, but for the spiritual and eternal well-being of those around you? Do you wish to be instrumental of good to others?"

READ at the Half-yearly Meeting of the Trelawney Association of Baptist Churches.

"THE IMPORTANCE of SUITABLE DWELLINGS to the CULTIVATION of FAMILY RELIGION, by *D. J. East*, Calabar Institution, Jamaica.

"The following Tract was prepared at the request of the Ministers and Delegates of the Trelawny Association of Baptist Churches, with a view to the discussion of the subject at its half-yearly meeting, held in April of the present year. The paper having accordingly been read and discussed, a resolution was unanimously passed, requesting the writer to print it for the use of the Association, and for general circulation.

"THE IMPORTANCE of SUITABLE DWELLINGS to the CULTIVATION of FAMILY RELIGION.

"AT a meeting of Christian ministers and other church-officers, held in the month of March 1862, some present were startled to hear one of their number say that, in his judgment, family religion was next to impossible, until people provided themselves with more suitable dwellings. And the concern was still more increased by the fact, that the testimonies which followed were painfully corroborative of this sad opinion.

"The habitations of many of the members of our churches are, no doubt, all that could be desired. We know of some eminently creditable to their social progress, with almost all the accommodations suitable to family requirements. Some we have visited, for style of structure, for decoration, for cleanliness, and for furniture, might be pointed to as model cottages, indicative of thrift and industry, of good taste, and of material prosperity. The owners of such dwellings are usually the fathers of families that promise to take a position in life in advance of their parents, who generally show a disposition to give their children an education in accordance with the comforts amid which they are brought up: and they have their reward. It is in such homes, doubtless, if anywhere, that family religion flourishes. Such families are the nurseries of the churches, and supply our congregations with the most intelligent members, and our Sunday Schools with the best instructed and most useful teachers. God grant that the number may be multiplied a thousand-fold.

"But while we rejoice in many such homes, we fear it is only too true that the dwellings of too many are anything but what they ought to be.

"It may, perhaps, help our consideration of the subject, if we can, first of all, settle in our minds what the habitation of a Christian family should be.

"1. And in the first place, it should obviously be suitable to the social position of its inmates. In society there are various grades. Just as God has made the physical world, so has He constituted society among men. All trees are not of one uniform height: all mountains do not rise to the same elevation. Variety is the order of creation. And so it has always been in the social condition of mankind. Men differ in wealth and education, in rank and office. And the religion of Jesus Christ teaches us not to despise, but to respect such distinctions. What may be suitable to one of them may be totally unsuited to another. The prince may require a palace, the peasant may be well contented with a cottage. And if the man who has to earn his daily bread should try to build a house in style and dimensions like the mansion of the man who has the command of a princely fortune, he would not only be attempting what would be impossible to his means, but what would make him supremely ridiculous in the eyes of all sensible persons, as doing that which would be unbecoming his condition.

"2. It is also obvious to remark, that his house should be suitable to the requirements of his family, as to numbers, age, and sex. The newly-married pair do not at first require accommodations as large as they will need when God as multiplied the olive branches around their table. A labouring man, on marrying, might be content to have a house containing three rooms,—a hall, a sleeping-room, and a sleeping-room for strangers. For want of the latter, we have heard of the indecency of young married persons allowing visitors to lie down at night in the same room as themselves: and we have known of the most debasing forms of wickedness as the consequence. In no case, therefore, do we think, should a family dwelling, however small the family may be, be provided with fewer than three rooms.

"But, as the family increases, surely it need not be said the dwelling should be enlarged, During the early months, in the infancy of a young family, this may be of little consequence.

quence. But, if modesty and virtue are to be cultivated, children need at a very early age to be provided with a sleeping-room entirely separate from that of their parents. Children have keen eyes and quick ears: and very little escapes their observation. A look, a gesture is noted. And scarcely any intercourse between husband and wife, which would be thought unseemly before the whole world, can be safely allowed in the presence even of very young children. Ideas and impressions may be conveyed to the mind, which, however little they may be thought of at the time, will, in after years, prove seeds of corruption, and supply food to a depraved imagination, or minister fuel to the fires of soul-destroying lusts. As soon, therefore, as it becomes safe for children at night to be removed from the mother's care, it becomes necessary that another room should be added to the family dwelling.

"And what, as years glide on, and the family consists of both sexes? We have been shocked to hear of houses, and we have seen many such, in which, for lack of accommodation, sons and daughters growing up towards the age of young men and women, have had to lie down together at night on mats spread on the same floor in the same room. Does this comport with modesty and decency, to use no stronger terms? And in such cases we have been told that these young people will occasionally bring in strangers as visitors, obliged by stress of weather, or some other cause, to stay the night, who will lie down upon the same boards in the common family room. Can this be right in the sight either of God or man? Surely such a habitation is unsuited to the requirements of such a family! And every law of decency and morality demands that, apart from the sleeping-room of the parents, there should be one separate sleeping-room for boys, and another for girls. Thus it would appear that, in every dwelling occupied by a family advancing towards mature age, there should be at least three sleeping-rooms besides a hall. If family circumstances will allow of a fourth, for the accommodation of visitors, so much the better. If not, they should either never be entertained for the night, or the utmost care should be taken that the laws of modesty are not violated.

"3. It is scarcely less obvious to add, that, to be suitable, a dwelling should be constituted with a view to health and cleanliness. In some districts are to be seen habitations for men and women in which the enjoyment of health is almost a miracle, and where cleanliness is impossible. The floor is the bare ground, not even levelled; or if it ever had been levelled, it has been again worked up into holes of irregular form and size. Here chigoes abound, and all manner of filth accumulates, and the consequence is a foul smell, enough almost to poison the inmates. The walls, moreover, have never been plastered; and dirt and dust cover them. Of course, limewash—that sweetener of human habitations and general destroyer of small vermin—such dwellings are quite innocent of this. And then the doors and windows are so small, that you have almost to grope in them for lack of light, while the fresh air of heaven cannot well get into them to ventilate and purify their atmosphere. To be clean in such dwellings is out of all question. And the appearance of children you see creeping out of such habitations, if there be nothing else, well assures you of the fact. From constitutional strength, and from having to work much in the open air, the health of grown-up people may defy the health-destroying influences of such places of abode. But there is no doubt that our infant population annually suffers great loss from being confined in such habitations:—the tender lungs of children cannot resist the destructive influence of the poisonous air they have to breathe. For habitations to be suitable to their purpose, therefore, they must be the opposite of such as these. The floors should, if possible, be boarded; but where this cannot be, they should be well 'terraced,' and the terracing should be kept in good repair: the walls should be plastered, and never a year should pass away without their being limewashed or coloured: and the windows and doors should be large enough to let in full supplies of light and air. We might also add how desirable it is, especially in small rooms, that some of them should be kept open by night as well as by day.

"4. I will only add, that for a dwelling to be suitable for its uses, it should be provided with suitable out-offices. It is difficult,—hardly delicate,—to speak of some requirements of a house, the necessity of which modesty and decency might suggest, but which, I have been told by well-informed persons, are rarely attached to the dwelling of a labouring man in Jamaica. The convenience of a kitchen no housewife will dispute. And this is necessary, not only as a convenience, but also for cleanliness: as otherwise much must be done within the dwelling which will inevitably create dirt and discomfort.

"Nor let any one say that it is impossible, in the large majority of cases, for our church-members to provide themselves with such habitations as these—at least in the country districts, and where they have land of their own, especially in the mountains. In no country in the world are building materials more abundant than in Jamaica. The districts are few in which limestone may not be had for quarrying it out; and in most it may be obtained with little labour: in some it may be picked up in pieces suitable at any rate for Spanish walling. Wood is usually as available as stone: and where wood and limestone are abundant, lime is only a question of labour. There is much land from which timber suitable for building may be honestly had for the cutting. And where this is not the case, posts of hard wood are to be bought at a trifling sum. In some localities they may easily be had at from 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* per post. At the end of this little book a plan will be found of a labouring man's cottage, and an estimate of its cost. This will be seen to be by no means considerable. The money frequently wasted by young people on dress and feasting at their weddings would go a good way towards erecting a decent house. In fact, the whole question of house-building amongst us resolves itself to a large extent in thrift, industry, and perseverance. There are few men who know how to economize their means, who are indus-

trious in their habits, and energetic and persevering in their character, who may not provide themselves with such a dwelling as has been spoken of as indispensable, and even with a home equal to those which have been referred to as models. And we feel sure, as the importance of the subject is felt, the difficulties in the way of realizing a better state of things in this respect will vanish.

"The importance of having suitable dwellings is great on numerous grounds. We are specially invited to consider it in relation to one—the cultivation of family religion.

"Religion is a personal thing:—the reign of God in the heart, beginning in the exercises of repentance and faith, and carried out in a life of holiness, to be consummated in the glory and blessedness of Heaven. But supposing the head of a family to be himself under the power of personal religion, he will exert a religious influence over his household, and feel impelled by the most sacred obligations to bring each member of it under the government of the self-same principles which have the rule in his own mind. It will be his constant aim to promote, in wife, and children, and servants, that godliness which in his own breast has gained the uppermost place. And as, where true religion exists at all, it reigns supreme, this aim will be the grand, moving, all-prevailing and all-pervading principle of his family government. All else will be made to bow to it. The promotion of the piety of each member of the domestic circle will over-rule and over-ride all other considerations. The daily arrangements of the household will be accommodated to this first principle of its constitution. All other duties and claims will be regulated and adjusted with a view to this. Just as, in a watch, all its parts are put together, accommodated the one to the other, and the movements of the whole regulated with a view to the one purpose of keeping correct time; so, in such a family, everything pertaining to it will be ordered so as to secure the one infinitely momentous object—the promotion of piety towards God in each and every member of it. With this view, therefore, whatever means tend to the advancement of the faith, and hope, and love of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, will be conscientiously and unremittingly employed. In a family so constituted, the Sacred Scriptures will be daily read: and, if possible, morning and evening, but at least once a day, father and mother, and children and servants, will be seen bowing the knee together in the exercises of prayer and praise. The heads of such a family will be using constant endeavours to draw the minds of those committed to them to the claims of the God and Father of all, through the mediating love of Him who died for our sins and rose again. And they will be as anxious to preserve the loved ones around them from whatever would lead them away from the paths of piety and peace. You will see them, therefore, not only directing all the influences of home to the supreme desire of their hearts, but ordering the affairs of the house in such sort as that every possible religious privilege may be enjoyed by their children and dependents, not only at home but abroad. This will be especially observable on the Lord's day, when the great congregation is gathered for public worship. The holy services of that day will be anticipated in the arrangements of the week. The clothing of the family will be washed up and got ready in time for Sunday wear. Saturday will be always a day of Sabbath preparation, when the house will be made ready by cleansing and polish for the quiet and hallowed enjoyments of the day of God. And when the Lord's day returns, it will be spent, not in idleness, or in feasting, or in visiting, or in frivolous conversation, but in diligent and devout attendance on the public means of grace. The Sabbath evening especially will be a season of family religious enjoyment, in which, at times, the blessedness of heaven will be antedated. We have known of Christian families in which this has been a perfectly truthful picture. Could you have entered their habitations, you would have seen the whole household grouped around the table. There would be the father, perhaps growing hoary with age, with the large family Bible spread open before him, and near by his side the loving wife, the joyful mother of his children, her heart beating in sympathy with every pulsation of his for the spiritual welfare of the dear ones whom God has given to them. The children, too, and those who serve in the family, have their open Bibles in their hands; and together they read the Book of God. And now their voices sweetly unite in songs of thanksgiving and praise; or perhaps the father expounds some brief portion of the Divine Word, or the younger members recite the sacred texts or hymns which have been committed to memory during the week. And then the knee is bowed;—all are prostrate at the mercy-seat; and from glowing hearts the fervid supplications led by the family priest, in the good old patriarchal sense, ascend like incense of a sweet-smelling savour through the one and only Mediator to the throne of grace. This is family religion; nor is it possible to think of it without at once feeling how important suitable dwellings must be to its cultivation.

"1. How, in the first place, can the means of its cultivation be properly observed, if the dwelling be unsuited to family accommodation? If morning and evening worship are to be decently attended to, accompanied by the reading of the Scriptures, there must be a room in which the several members of the household may be assembled. There should be seats on which they may sit down in quiet, a table on which the family Bible may be spread, and a floor on which it may be decent to kneel down. We do not say that family prayer may not be engaged in under any circumstances; but unless some such house accommodations are provided, it cannot be attended to advantageously. And the want of them will sooner or later prove so discouraging as to lead to its entire or partial neglect.

"2. In an ill-provided dwelling, where the rooms are inadequate to the purposes of human habitation, family order is next to impossible. If, for example, the family room by day be the sleeping-room for some members of the household by night, arrangements which order and propriety would dictate, especially in the morning and at eventide, must be disturbed and

and broken in upon by the arrangements of each returning night. In such a house the breakfast and supper can hardly be taken together by husband, wife, and children, at one common table, as it should be; but one will be eating his mess here and another there; and that important bond of unity, the family meal, will be wanting. But in the cultivation of family religion order is a primary law. It is so in religion itself. And without order, is it likely that there will be regularity in presenting on the domestic altar the daily sacrifice of prayer and praise? With mats spread about upon the floor, or one sleeping child lying here and another there, what comfort will there be in which for a household to bow the knee together in the evening? And amid the confusion which such a room would probably present in the morning, would it be very surprising if the father should be tempted to leave his dwelling and go out to his daily labour without calling his family together at all?

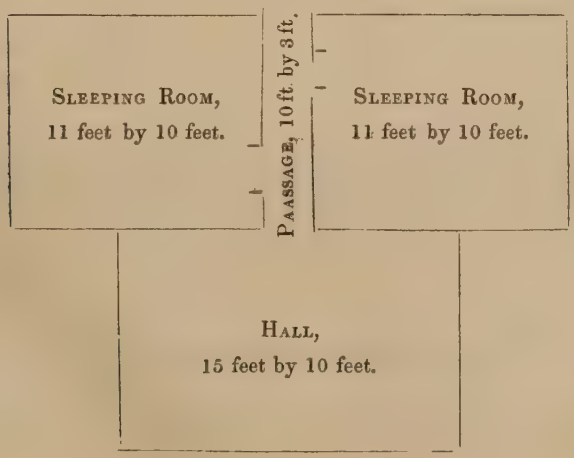
3. "Besides, in such a state of things how ill-fitted must be the minds of all for religious exercises? Little things mostly make up the sum of human life. And it is surprising how powerfully the mind is influenced by a collection of circumstances which, taken one by one, would not be of hardly any moment. This is often the case when we are least aware of it. We may not know it, and yet the foul air of a close crowded room may be souring our tempers, or sinking our spirits, and unfitting us for every holy exercise. And the innumerable little and unmentionable discomforts of a dwelling in which men and women are herded together, instead of being decently distributed and properly provided with decent accommodations, may be daily sapping the foundations of family peace. One will be fretful and complaining; some will grow quarrelsome; all will be more or less jostling against each other, being all in each other's way. And the love and harmony which should prevail between husband and wife, and brothers and sisters, will have little place. How should family religion flourish in such an atmosphere?

"4. And if the house be like some which have been spoken of, in which distinctions of age and sex have little or no respect,—in which father and mother and growing-up sons and daughters lie down to sleep together almost promiscuously,—then there can be no exaggeration in saying family religion is impossible. Religion and morality are inseparable. And to talk of religion in a household where the first laws of modesty, and decency, and morals, are set at naught, is a confusion of thought and contradiction of terms not for a moment to be tolerated. And in such families we see that family religion has no place. The sons usually grow up lawless, disobedient to parents, and wanting in almost every element of goodness; and the daughters to dishonour their sex and people the land with bastard children. How should it be otherwise? Modesty and shamefacedness is at once the chief charm of female character, and the main defence of female virtue. A woman without modesty may make a harlot; she is hardly fit to become a wife. And yet where families are crowded in such dwellings, the sentiment of modesty, in either young men or maidens, can never have been known. In such associations family religion has no place.

"5. But enough; I might add much more. Sufficient, however, has been said to show how important are suitable dwellings to the cultivation of family religion. We cannot think without admiration of the families in which its influences are fully felt, and the means of its cultivation are diligently observed. But in order to the multiplication of such families in the land, there must be a wonderful reformation in the structure of the houses of our people. The work of improvement has been begun. It has already made cheering progress; and we believe that if only those who are the leaders and framers of public opinion, and especially ministers of the Gospel and Christian teachers, with our deacons and leaders, have the fidelity and zeal which the times demand, faith and patience will in due season, in this, as in other respects, meet with their reward.

"*Ground Plan of a Cottage.—No.* 1.

Scale, $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to 1 foot.

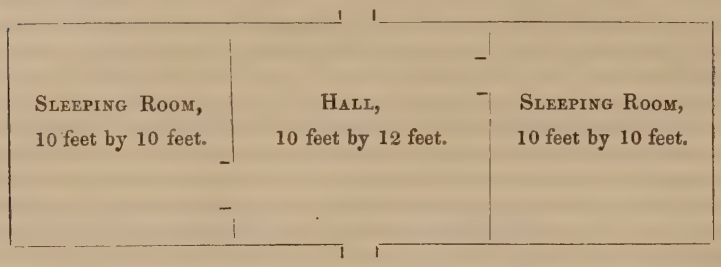


"ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST OF No. 1.*

		£.	s.	d.
43	Posts for uprights	2	3	–
12	„ for plates	–	12	–
44	Rafters	–	16	6
700	Feet W. P. boards, for flooring, lathing, and jalousies	7	–	–
15	Barrels of lime	1	10	–
	Limestone and marl	3	–	–
20	Joists	1	–	–
4	Doors	2	–	–
3,000	Shingles	7	4	–
50	Lbs. nails	1	17	6
	Carpentry	12	–	–
	Masonry and plastering	5	–	–
		£. 44	3	–"

"*Ground Plan of a Cottage.—No. 2.*

"Scale, $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to 1 foot.



"ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST OF No. 2.*

		£.	s.	d.
36	Posts for uprights	1	16	–
10	„ for plates	–	10	–
32	Rafters	–	12	–
600	Feet W. P. boards, for flooring, lathing, and jalousies	6	–	–
12	Barrels of lime	1	4	–
15	Joists	–	15	–
	Limestone and marl	2	10	–
4	Doors	2	–	–
2,500	Shingles	6	–	–
30	Lbs. nails	1	2	6
	Carpentry	10	–	–
	Masonry and plastering	5	–	–
		£. 37	9	6"

* This, in most districts, would be the probable cost where all the materials would have to be bought and the labour would have to be paid for. But, in many cases, the land on which the house was to be built would supply the lumber, the stone, the marl, or "dirt," and the materials for making lime. This would reduce the cost in money of the first estimate to 38 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, and of the second to 34 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.*

INTRODUCTORY LECTURE delivered at the Court House, *Montego Bay*, on the formation of the ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY of INDUSTRY and ARTS, by the Rev. *Walter Dendy*, Hon. Sec., 19 November 1856.

S. G. CORINALDI, ESQ., V.P., IN THE CHAIR.

"IN compliance with the request of the Council of the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts, I appear before you this evening with the hope of enlisting your sympathies and securing your cordial support and co-operation in the objects for which the society was established.

"Societies like the present arise out of the developments of civilisation, education, manufactures, or commerce; for man in a state of civilisation is eminently a social being, and in such a state learns to have confidence in his fellow, finding that by association and co-operation that can be accomplished which would be impossible to a single individual. Hence you may judge of the progress of the civilisation of a country by the number of its substantial buildings for public purposes, by its good roads and convenient bridges, by the ships that are built or freighted with produce for foreign shores, and which return heavily laden with such things as add to the comfort and convenience of life, by the machines that are made or introduced to lessen the necessity of manual labour, by the schools and colleges, by the associations for the promotion of literature and science, and by the industry and social habits of the people.

"Great changes, social and political, have recently taken place in this colony, and we have, as it were, to begin anew, by laying the foundation for the future prosperity of the island. The Royal Society of Arts, the Hanover Society of Industry, and our own society, will, we hope, if followed out with spirit and perseverance, be productive of good, and that, as iron brighteneth iron, so the intercourse that must result in the carrying on of these institutions, will develop latent talent, call into existence industrious exertion, advance civilisation in the island, and promote the social welfare of all classes of its inhabitants.

"Where any new society is formed it is very natural to make the inquiry, 'What is its object, and what does it design to accomplish?' We live in an eminently practical age, and but few are disposed to pursue an object merely for the acquisition of knowledge. If the road to wealth is opened, hundreds and thousands will leave the land of their nativity, brave the dangers of the sea, and the greater difficulties of land travelling, to arrive at the diggings of California or Australia; others will embark in speculations of commerce, buying and selling, and getting gain; while some will be enthusiastic in their professions, and, though much study is a weariness to the flesh, will toil day and night to reach the object of their ambition and obtain an honourable distinction among their fellow-men.

"We shall endeavour to show the utility of the cultivation of science and art, the importance of persevering habits in the acquisition of knowledge and its application to useful purposes.

"Science has been defined to be the regular development of any branch of knowledge; it perfects genius and moderates those ebullitions of fancy which are apt to overstep the bounds of reason. The difference between science and art is, that the first is speculative and the second mechanical. Science plans, and art performs.

"We will just glance at some of the arts and sciences that are every day brought under our notice, and which in many cases are so common that they cease to be regarded with any interest; for instance, the art of writing, the utility of which needs not to be enlarged upon: 'Without its aid the experience of each generation would have been almost entirely lost to succeeding ages, and only a faint glimmer of truth could have been discerned through the mists of tradition.' So accustomed are we to the art that we do not reflect how dependent we are upon it; but to those who become acquainted with it for the first time it is an astonishing acquirement. Strange tales are told of slaves who have been entrusted with a basket of fruit and other things to carry to a distance, who having purloined a portion on the road, have had their peculations revealed by the written paper that accompanied them; that on a second occasion, in order to prevent 'paper telling lie upon them,' a stone sufficiently great was placed upon the paper, so that it should not see the hand abstracting from the basket what the eye saw and the heart coveted, but that even this precaution was unavailing, the paper was sharp enough to see through the stone.

"Williams, a missionary to the South Sea Islands, relates in his Narrative (page 32), a circumstance which will give a striking idea of the feelings of an untaught people when observing for the first time the effects of written communication:—'As I had come to the work one morning without my square, I took up a chip, and with a piece of charcoal wrote upon it a request that Mrs. Williams would send me that article. I called a chief who was superintending his portion of the work, and said to him, "'Friend, take this; go to our house, and give it to Mrs. Williams.'" He was a singular-looking man, remarkably quick in his movements, and had been a great warrior, but in one of the numerous battles he had fought had lost an eye. Giving me an inexpressible look with the other, he said, "'Take that! She will call me a fool, and scold me, if I carry a chip to her.'" "'No,'" I

replied; "'she will not. Take it, and go immediately, I am in haste.'" Perceiving me to be in earnest, he took it, and asked, "'What must I say?'" I replied, "'You have nothing to say; the chip will say all I wish.'" With a look of astonishment and contempt, he held up the piece of wood and said, "'How can this speak? Has this a mouth?'" I desired him to take it immediately, and not spend so much time in talking about it. On arriving at the house, he gave the chip to Mrs. Williams, who read it, threw it away, and went to the tool chest, whither the chief, resolving to see the result of this mysterious proceeding, followed her closely. On receiving the square from her, he said, "'Stay, daughter. How do you know that this is what Mr. Williams wants?'" "'Why,'" she replied, "'did you not bring me a chip just now?'" "'Yes,'" said the astonished warrior; "'but I did not hear it say anything.'" "'If you did not, I did,'" was the reply; "'for it made known to me what he wanted, and all you have to do is to return with it as quickly as possible.'" With this the chief leaped out of the house, and catching up the mysterious piece of wood, he ran through the settlement with the chip in one hand and the square in the other, holding them up as high as his arms would reach, and shouting as he went, "'See the wisdom of these English people: they can make chips talk! they can make chips talk!'" On giving me the square, he wished to know how it was possible thus to converse with persons at a distance. I gave him all the explanation in my power; but it was a circumstance involved in so much mystery that he actually tied a string to the chip, hung it round his neck, and wore it for some time. During several following days we frequently saw him surrounded by a crowd, who were listening with interest while he narrated the wonders which the chip had performed.'

"Writing, like every other useful art, may be abused; yet we have little sympathy with the woman in Berkshire who exclaimed, on seeing a man hanged at Reading for forgery, 'Thank God, neither of my sons can read or write; so they will not be hanged for forgery!' Respecting the use of the pen, Cowper, the poet, has well said:

> 'The sacred implement I now employ
> Might prove a mischief, or at best a toy;
> A trifle, if it move but to amuse,
> But if to wrong the judgment and abuse,
> Worse than a poignard in the basest hand,
> It stabs at once the morals of the land.'

"From what small incidents some of the most important events take their rise! like the little mountain-stream scarcely noticed at first, but at length as it flows on and accumulates becoming a river capable of bearing the heaviest laden ships. Such appears to have been the art of printing.

"'A man of Haarlem, a town in Holland, four centuries ago (1430), named Lawrence Koster, was amusing himself in cutting some letters on the smooth bark of a tree. It occurred to him to transfer an impression of these letters on paper. He thus impressed two or three lines, as a specimen for the amusement of his children. Here was the whole art: an apparently accidental circumstance gave him the requisite hint, from which his mind was sent out on the adventurous wings of invention, contriving a suitable ink, cutting whole pages of letters in blocks of wood, and transferring from thence to paper.

"'This art, however, nearly brought one of its early workers into trouble, Fust or Faustus having printed off a considerable number of copies of the Bible to imitate those commonly sold in manuscript, undertook the sale of them in Paris, where the art of printing was then unknown. As he sold his printed copies for 60 crowns, while the scribes demanded 500, this created astonishment; but when he produced copies as fast as they were wanted, and also lowered the price to 30 crowns, all Paris was agitated. The uniformity of the copies increased the wonder. Informations were given to the magistrates against him as a magician; his lodgings were searched, and a great number of copies being found, they were seized. The red ink with which they were embellished was said to be his blood. It was seriously adjudged that he was in league with the devil; but, on discovering his art, the parliament of Paris passed an Act to discharge him from all persecution in consideration of his useful invention.'

"From that time what wonderful progress has been made in the application of this invention. In November, 1814, the 'Times' newspaper was printed by steam for the first time, and now some thousands of copies can be thrown off in an hour.

"When writing and printing became widely extended it was necessary that materials should be found to supersede the skin or parchment, vellum, and papyrus. Now, paper is the chief material used for this purpose, and is made of linen or cotton rags, and in China of various barks of trees, especially the mulberry, the elm, the bamboo, and the cotton tree. The demand for paper at present is enormous, and the inquiry is made what substance shall be pressed into the service of the paper-maker. Attention is directed towards Jamaica as a place from whence a supply can be drawn; and it now appears to rest with the inhabitants of this island to say whether they will, by their industry, energy, and skill, furnish a portion of material to satisfy the great demand made. It would be a pleasant fact if the St. James's Society of Arts and Industry could do anything to supply these desiderata. Cannot Jamaica furnish material capable of being converted into the finest paper fit for the artist, of the highest workmanship for the writing desk of royalty, and for the untiring demands of the British press? I believe she can.

"'Of what use is science?' cries one and another; 'by it we shall not gain our daily bread;' and yet those who raise the cry are reaping its benefit every day they live, and every

every hour of the day. New scientific facts are brought to light from time to time; we may not at first be able to tell to what use they may be applied, but doubtless, one day or other, they will be brought to bear upon the welfare of mankind, and will perform their part in the destinies of the world. What is a more common process than the burning of lime? yet to the uninitiated it would appear folly to fell timber, pile it in heaps, place broken rock upon the mass and burn it; such labour would be regarded as thrown away; and results quite of a different nature would be expected from the process, as was the case in one of the islands of the Pacific, where the missionary employed some natives in collecting coral, which was piled upon wood prepared for it. The islanders could not understand or imagine what this singular process was to effect. At length the teachers requested them to set light to the firewood, and as soon as it began to blaze they could contain themselves no longer, but commenced shouting 'Oh! these foreigners! they are roasting stones! they are roasting stones! come hurricane and blow down our bananas and our bread-fruit; we shall never suffer from famine again; these foreigners are teaching us to roast stones.' They were told to wait patiently, and they would see the result: the next morning, to their utter astonishment, the burnt coral was reduced to a beautiful powder, and when they saw it applied as whitewash, they exclaimed, 'Wonderful, wonderful, the very stones in the sea and the sand on the shore become good property in the hands of those who worship the true God, and regard his good work!'

"We have happily known for many years the art of making lime, and the uses to which it can be applied, but perhaps there may be materials as useful as the coral and the sand around us, which are at present hidden from our view or not brought into any practical use.

"The philosopher, intent upon the acquisition of facts, pursues his investigations as to the relative weight of various solid, liquid, and gaseous bodies, and ascertains that gold is about nineteen times heavier than water, lead eleven, and iron eight times. Of what use, says one, is this knowledge; the time spent in such investigations might be employed in that which would procure food for the body and gold for the pocket. But the knowledge of these facts has a real practical utility, as may be seen in the oft-repeated tale of Hiero, king of Syracuse, who suspected that a crown of gold he had ordered did not contain the amount stated of the precious metal, and employed Archimedes to solve the problem: the philosopher for some time was puzzled, until one day in his bath he observed that as his body sank, so was the water displaced, and his master-mind instantly saw that bulk displaced so much water, yet that the weight of his body in less size would not produce the same effect. This dawn of truth he perceived would lead to a solution of the king's question; and in the ecstasy of the moment he leapt from the bath, and ran naked through the streets shouting, 'I have found it, I have found it!' He then got a mass of gold of the same weight as that given to form the crown, and weighing the gold and the crown in the water, he found the gold weighed much heavier than the crown. Next he placed the gold carefully in a vessel filled to the brim with water, and accurately meted the quantity of water that flowed over; refilling the vessel, he placed the crown in water, and found that a much greater quantity was displaced than by the mass of gold, consequently that some lighter metal than gold had been mixed with it which increased its bulk.

"Alcohol, *i.e.*, spirits, as brandy, rum, &c., is lighter than water. The knowledge of this fact may appear unimportant, yet it is put to a practical purpose on every estate in the island, to ascertain the strength of the rum that is made. Hydrometers, or bubbles, as they are called, are used for this purpose: other people test spirits by pouring in oil; if the oil sink the spirit is proof.

"'A shopkeeper in China,' says Dr. Arnott, 'sold to a purser of a ship a quantity of distilled spirits, according to a sample shown; but not standing in awe of conscience, he afterwards, in the privacy of his storehouse, added a certain quantity of water to each cask. The spirit having been delivered on board, and tried by the hydrometer, was discovered to be wanting in strength. When the vendor was charged with the intended fraud he at first denied it, for he knew of no human means which could have made the discovery; but on the exact quantity of water which had been mixed being specified, he was so confounded that he confessed his roguery, and made ample amends. On the instrument of his detection being afterwards shown to him, he offered any price for what he foresaw might be turned to so good an account in his trade.'

"The study of Geology has been by some persons considered as useless, and fears have been entertained by some good people that this science would contradict the testimony of scripture, as if the great God would contradict himself, and record in the book of nature facts at variance with those which he had caused to be written in the Book of Grace. The geologist, picking up a fragment of a rock here and there, or searching after fossils, and arranging them in a certain order, has been laughed at as a collector of stones and of rubbish only fit for the repairing of roads, or to fill up a hole in a yard. What does it matter whether the rocks over which we walk are produced by aqueous or igneous action; whether they be granite, sandstone, or limestone? Yet geology has its practical applications. By it the geologist knows where to sink an artesian well to supply a city with water; where to procure the most suitable materials to build a palace or a bridge; under certain rocks he knows it would be as useless to dig for coals as to look for oranges on a guava tree, or for cocoa-nuts on a plantain-sucker; he knows where to select the clay for bricks, the earth for our potteries and porcelain manufacturers, the slate with which to cover our houses, or for the schoolboy to work his sums on.

"It is a source of amusement to a child to be furnished with a magnet and a few small pieces of metal or filings, and to see the power of attraction it possesses. It is said that the

peculiar property of magnetic needles, always pointing to the north, was discovered by some curious persons amusing themselves by making swim in a basin of water a loadstone attached to a piece of cork. The discovery of this simple fact led to the invention of the mariner's compass, and by it the bold and enterprising Columbus discovered these islands of the Western sea; and now the navigators of the ocean, instead of keeping close to shore, boldly venture across the widest oceans, and carry civilisation and commerce to the remotest parts of the earth.

"Benjamin Franklin, with his kite, drew the lightning down from the clouds, and made many experiments in electricity. Some persons thought that he must be a wicked, impious man, thus to meddle and tamper with the lightning of the heavens, a prerogative that only belonged to God. But to what great results has his discovery in connection with magnetism led! It has linked together the nations of the earth in fraternal communication; the telegraphic wires are now laid down from Great Britain to the continent of Europe; soon Asia will be traversed with its net-work of wires; and preparations are now being made for the laying of the wires between Great Britain and America; and if the sons of Jamaica are but industrious and enterprising, the time may not be far distant when our most gracious Queen's Speech in the British House of Commons may be flashed across from England to America, thence over the Gulf of Florida to Cuba, and from Cuba to Jamaica, so that when we sit down to breakfast we may read the Speech of the previous day. Let but Jamaica develope her resources, and we hope, at least, to have a constant communication between her metropolis and the chief towns on the north side of the island.

"The invention of the Telescope has been of great service to mankind. 'The son of a spectacle maker of Middleburgh, in Holland, happening to amuse himself in his father's shop, by holding two glasses between his finger and his thumb, and varying their distance, perceived the weathercock of the church spire opposite to him much larger than ordinary, and apparently much nearer, and turned upside down. This new wonder excited the amazement of his father; he adjusted two glasses on a board, rendering them moveable at pleasure, and thus formed the first rude imitation of a perspective glass, by which distant objects are brought near to view.' Galileo endeavoured to bring this invention to perfection. He fixed his glasses at the end of long organ-pipes, and constructed a telescope, which he soon directed to different parts of the heavens. He discovered four moons revolving around the planet Jupiter, spots on the surface of the sun, and the rotation of that globe on its axis. And from that period what mighty improvements have been made in its size and application! Lord Rosse's telescope was a triumph worthy of one whose wealth, energy, and genius are consecrated to the noble pursuit of science, and with it to the benefit of mankind at large. The telescope is not only a serviceable instrument to scan the heavens, and reveal to us the many planets unknown till the present century, but the mariner by it can view the distant mountains as he approaches the shore, or see the long-expected and looked-for lighthouse, by which he knows how to steer clear of the breakers, or find the channel he must take to bring him into the desired port.

"The Microscope is another instrument constructed on similar principles to the telescope; it discovers to us small objects invisible to the naked eye.

"In reference to these two, the microscope and the telescope, Dr. Chalmers has said: 'While the telescope enables us to see a system in every star, the microscope unfolds to us a world in every atom. The one instructs us that this mighty globe, with the whole burden of its people and its countries, is but a grain of sand in the vast field of immensity; the other, that every atom may harbour the tribes and families of a busy population. The one shows us the insignificance of the world we inhabit; the other redeems it from all its insignificance, for it tells us that, in the leaves of every forest, in the flowers of every garden, in the waters of every rivulet, there are worlds teeming with life, and numberless as are the stars of the firmament. The one suggests to us, that above and beyond all that is visible to man, there may be regions of creations, which sweep immeasurably along, and carry the impress of the Almighty's hand to the remotest scenes of the universe; the other, that within and beneath all that minuteness which the aided eye of man is able to explore, there may be a world of invisible beings; and that could one draw aside the mysterious veil which shrouds it from our senses, we might behold a theatre of as many wonders as astronomy can unfold, a universe within the compass of a point, so small as to elude all the powers of the microscope, but where the Almighty Ruler of all things finds room for the exercise of his attributes, where he can raise another mechanism of worlds, and fill and animate them all with evidence of his glory.'

"The revelations of the microscope are of more use than merely to excite our curiosity; recently this instrument has been made to detect adulterations in articles used as medicine or as food for man.

"The application of steam to industrial purposes shows the benefit of science carried out into practice. For the improvement of the steam-engine we are indebted to James Watt, a name that will be handed down to posterity as one of the greatest benefactors to our race. In his boyhood, it is said that his aunt, Mrs. Muirhead, did not entertain any great opinion of his abilities; and upbraided him one evening at the tea-table for what seemed to her to be listless idleness, taking off the lid of the tea-kettle, and putting it on again; holding sometimes a cup, and sometimes a silver spoon over the steam; watching the exit of the steam from the spout, and counting the drops of water into which it became condensed. His subsequent triumphs immortalised his name. M. Arago, the Secretary of the Royal Academy of Sciences in France, addressed the members of that institution, in reference to Watt, and said 'Gentlemen, the creator of six or eight millions of workmen, indefatigable and

and industrious, among whom the arm of authority is never called upon to interpose for the suppression of revolt; this man, who by his brilliant inventions conferred upon England the means of sustaining itself during a political convulsion, when its very existence as a nation was endangered; this modern Archimedes, this benefactor of the whole human race, whose memory future generations will eternally bless, what was done to heap honour upon this man? The peerage is in England the first of dignities, the highest of national rewards. You will naturally suppose that Mr. Watt was, at least, elevated to the highest rank in the peerage! Such a thing was never even thought of. . . . Futurity will behold Watt appearing before the grand jury of the inhabitants of the two hemispheres; they will see him penetrating with the aid of his mighty machine into the bowels of the earth, in the short period of a few weeks, to the depths where, before his time, it would have required a century of painful labour to arrive, and there opening up spacious galleries and mines, clearing them in a few minutes of the immense volumes of water that encumber them, and snatching from virgin earth the boundless mineral wealth deposited there by bountiful Nature. Uniting delicacy with power, it will be seen twisting with equal success the immense folds of the gigantic cable, by which the ship of the line embraces in safety her anchor in the midst of the tumultuous tossing waves, and the microscopic filaments of the delicate muslin, and the aerial lace, which float on the zephyrs of fashion. A few oscillations of the same machine will bring into culture extensive swamps, and fertile countries will be rescued from the periodic and deadly miasmata raised up by the burning heats of a summer sun. Population, well fed, well clothed, well warmed, increasing with rapidity, is fast covering with elegant mansions the surface of countries formerly the deserts of the world, and which eternal barrenness appeared to condemn to the dominion of beasts of prey. In a few years, what are now but hamlets will become important cities. Transferred to our ships, the steam-engine will replace a hundred-fold the power of triple and quadruple rowers, from whom our forefathers exacted a labour reckoned among the severest punishments of the most atrocious criminals. The steam-engine, in conclusion, drawing in its train thousands of travellers, will traverse the railway with far greater velocity than the best race-horse loaded only with his pigmy jockey.'

"'To describe,' says a writer, 'the various applications of steam would far exeeed our limits; perhaps few of its effects are more astounding than in the manufacture of iron. Thus, there are factories where this resistless power is seen, with its mechanic claws, seizing masses of iron, and in a few minutes delivering them out again pressed into thin sheets, or cut into bars and ribbons, as if the iron had become soft, like clay in the hands of the potter. Well, indeed, may it be said, that the steam-engine has infinitely increased the mass of human comforts, and rendered cheap and accessible all over the world, the materials of wealth and prosperity. It has armed the feeble hand of man, in short, with a power to which no limits can be assigned, completed the dominion of mind over the most refractory qualities of matter, and laid a sure foundation for all those future miracles of mechanical power which are to add to and reward the labours of after generations. Already it has become a thing alike stupendous for its force and flexibility: the trunk of an elephant, that can pick up a pin, or can rend an oak, is nothing to it. It can engrave a seal, and crush masses of obdurate materials, like wax, before it; draw out, without breaking, a thread as fine as gossamer; and lift a ship of war, like a bauble, in the air. It can embroider muslin, and forge anchors, cut steel into ribbons, and impel loaded vessels against the fury of the waves."

"The steam engine has attached to it numerous rods, by which the engine becomes self-acting and self-adjusting, marks the number of its strokes, supplies its boilers with water, feeds itself with coal, takes oil when necessary, with a damper regulates its heat, will slacken the fire with water, and in helplessness ring a bell to call for its attendant's aid. What writer of fable ever conceived such marvels? Almost to a truth is it what the rhymester says:

'I've no muscles to weary, no breast to decay,
No bones to be laid on the shelf;
And soon I intend you may go off and play,
While I manage the world by myself.'

"I had intended to have referred to the practical importance of being acquainted with other facts connected with science and art, as, for instance, that heat expands a metal, while cold contracts it. The application of this is seen in the operation of putting on the iron tyre to the wheel of a carriage: the iron is first made red-hot, and fixed on, and then in cooling it contracts, and remains firm. In buildings and bridges where iron enters into the construction, accidents have taken place in consequence of the expansion and contraction not having been provided for.

"I might further have referred to the uses of Botany, Meteorology, and Zoology; of the employment of animals, not only for food, but for manufactures; I will but just indicate two examples, the domestic sheep and the silkworm.

"M'Culloch informs us that the imports of wool into Great Britain in 1851 amounted to 41,810,137 lbs.; that the value of the manufactured articles is estimated at 26,000,000 *l.*, and the number of persons employed in the different branches of the woollen manufacture, 322,000.

"We have not at hand the amount of silk produced and imported into Great Britain, with its value; but it must be great. If, therefore, these two animals were suddenly annihilated, or so changed that the caterpillar of the silkworm no longer spun a cocoon, and

that sheep were covered with hair like that of a horse, how vast would be the effect on man! How many millions of the human race might say with the afflicted Moor, 'Othello's occupation's gone!'

"But the question may very properly be reiterated, 'What are the objects of the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts?' We reply that we wish it emphatically to be what we have designated it, a society of industry; and the society cannot prosper without this qualification, in its counsel, and in its officers, and in its members. Neither will the beautiful parish in which we live ever prosper without its inhabitants be industrious. Time may advance, circumstances may change, but principles remain unalterable. It is as true now as in the days of Solomon, 'The hand of the diligent maketh rich, and the idle soul shall suffer hunger;' and the observations he made as to the consequences of idleness are still correct: 'I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; and, lo! it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down; then I saw and considered it well; I looked upon it and received instruction: for a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep, so shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.' Idleness is said to be the sepulchre of a living man, the parent of want and shame; while industry is never unfruitful, is a guard to innocence, and a bar to temptation. There is a dignity in labour:—

'Labour is life! 'tis the still water faileth,
Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth;
Keep the watch wound, for the dark rust assaileth—
Flowers droop and die in the stillness of noon.
Labour is glory! the flying cloud lightens,
Only the waving wing changes and brightens;
Idle hearts only the dark future frightens—
Play the sweet keys wouldst thou keep them in tune.
* * * * * * * * * * * *
Work, and pure slumber shall wait on thy pillow;
Work, thou shalt ride over Care's coming billow.
Lie not down wearied 'neath Woe's weeping willow;
Work with a stout heart and resolute will.'

"A necessary companion of industry is a spirit of self-reliance; there can be no success without it; let a man depend on his own energies, and not be raising his expectations from an indulgent father, or a rich uncle, or a fourth or fifth cousin, for some lucky windfall. As long as health and strength last never fawn and cringe as a poor relative upon those who are in better circumstances. Charles Lamb describes this class of hangers-on in the following style: 'A poor relation is the most irrelevant thing in nature, an unwelcome remembrancer, a perpetual mortification, a drawback upon success, a stain in your blood, a blot on your escutcheon, a rent in your garment, a death's-head at your banquet, a Mordecai at your gate, a Lazarus at your door, a lion in your path, a frog in your chamber, a fly in your ointment, a mote in your eye, a triumph to your enemy, an apology to your friends, the one thing not needful, the hail in harvest, the ounce of sour in a pound of sweet.'

"It is to be hoped that the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts will be the means of reducing the number of such poor relations; and that none will allow themselves to be poor excepting such as are made so by affliction or the providential arrangements of God. Let all who have health and strength say:

'Oh! there is a good in labour,
If we labour but aright;
It gives a vigour to the day-time,
And a sweeter sleep at night.
'Tis a good that bringeth pleasure,
E'en to the toiling hours;
For duty cheers the spirit,
As the dew revives the flowers.'

"Our society proposes to have a museum of the natural and cultivated products of the parish, and of the island generally. We need say nothing of our great staple, which is equally grateful to the palate of the peasant and the prince, to the soldier on the battle-field, and to the sailor on the stormy ocean, to the infant and to the aged; and if it has not the potent charm of sweetening the temper, it is a corrective to acerbity, and smoothes down the roughness of our morning and evening cup. This parish I believe to be rich; and if gold is not to be found in nuggets, there is that which, if properly used, can be turned into gold.

"As objects of curiosity, there are fossils in our mountains; in our seas the beautiful algæ, and many shells of the brightest hue. But among the useful we have perhaps at least fifty or sixty descriptions of valuable woods, many of which might be made into furniture for the cottages of the poor, and some would be fit to make a cabinet to be placed in Windsor Castle or Buckingham Palace for the use of our most gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria.

"We have fibrous materials fit for twine, cordage, or paper; vegetables from which starches can be made for food or for manufactures; we have fruits that can be cultivated to any extent, and might be prepared for a foreign market; other substances adapted for pickles, and a variety of seeds and fruits from which oils of various qualities can be produced, some suitable for the artist, and some for the machinist.

"These different articles being brought together, will tend to show our resources, and we shall perhaps find that we are not so poor as we sometimes seem to be.

Another

"Another part of the museum is to be devoted to the exhibition of articles of native manufacture. There are some things that we must continue to import from other countries, and it is well that it should be so; but there are many that might be manufactured for home consumption, and perhaps even for exportation. Why should tables or chairs, pails or tubs, be imported while we have better materials growing at our own doors? Why should corn or meal be introduced where we have so much uncultivated ground? Cannot straw hats, baskets, bonnets, and a variety of articles I cannot stop to enumerate, be made in St. James's?

"A complaint is made that there is no market for such things if manufactured; but if they are made and exhibited, and the prices be reasonable, they will find a market as easily as the Swiss peasants find a market for their small articles of wood-ware, or for their more skilled manufactured watches.

"The museum, then, will be a place where the skill and dexterity of our artisans may be made known to the advantage of themselves and of their fellow-townsmen.

"I need not dwell on the benefit of having a good library to which the members of the Society can have access, or on the utility and recreation which popular lectures will afford, or on the importance of the formation of classes for mutual improvement by those whose time during the day is occupied in the pursuits of business; these topics may perhaps be taken up by other lecturers who will be able more fully to show their advantages, as well as to speak of the probable results of the proposed annual exhibition.

"One of the benefits of this Society will be not only the bringing to light hidden wealth, as it is found in our fields and woods, and in the sea which washes the northern part of the parish, but the development of hidden talent. Perhaps among our young men there may be in embryo, a James Watt or an Isaac Newton, some one who shall take a higher walk in literature or science than he otherwise would if there were no means to draw him out of his retirement:

'Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear;
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.'

"We hope that by this society some feeble aid may be given to commerce; we may not be able to stimulate production for exportation, to any great extent, but every thing that is sent abroad will bring back its equivalent, something that will add to the comforts or conveniences of the inhabitants of this land, and thus contribute a thread to assist to bind in a common brotherhood the nations of the earth; for—

'The band of commerce was designed
To associate all the branches of mankind;
And if a boundless plenty be the robe,
Trade is the golden girdle of the globe;
Wise to promote whatever end he means,
God opens fruitful Nature's various scenes;
Each climate needs what other climes produce,
And offers something to the general use;
No land but listens to the common call,
And in return receives supplies from all.'

"We hope that this and kindred societies, combined with the educational and religious appliances in the colony, will contribute to make its inhabitants happy and prosperous, and that we may soon see the signs of prosperity, as described by a versifier in the following language:

'Where spades grow bright, and idle swords grow dull,
Where gaols are empty, and where barns are full,
Where church paths are with frequent feet outworn,
Law court-yards weedy, silent, and forlorn,
Where doctors foot it, and where farmers ride,
Where age abounds, and youth is multiplied;
Where these signs are, they clearly indicate
A happy people and well-governed state.'

"If this society be carried on with vigour, we are sanguine of success; although, like the British oak, or our native mahogany, it may grow but slowly, like them it will increase in value as it grows in age. We hope to banish from our society the senseless cry, 'It can't be done,' as the cry of weakness, indecision, indifference, and indolence. Our cry is, lend a helping hand to forward the objects of the society, and to aid in developing its usefulness; and let none say they cannot aid: our generous planters, our merchant princes, our industrious settlers, our skilful mechanics, our hardy fishermen, our rising young men, and last, though not least, we appeal, and do not believe our appeal will be in vain, to the ladies, to aid our society; we look for contributions from such as the wise man describeth; 'who seeketh wool and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands; who layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff; who looketh well to the ways of her household;' or who, to use the words of one of our choice poets, is described thus:

'The needle plies its busy task,
The pattern grows, the well-depicted flower,
Wrought patiently into the snowy lawn,
Unfolds its bosom; buds, and leaves, and sprigs,
And curling tendrils, gracefully disposed,
Follow the nimble fingers of the fair;
A wreath that cannot fade of flowers that blow
With most success, when all beside decay.'

"In conclusion, I trust that however imperfectly I have performed the part assigned me, or however unsuccessful I have been in this, the first lecture before the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts, that the society itself will not suffer a loss; but that although the lecture may not be approved, either in the matter or manner, that I shall be generously forgiven; and that, passing over all its shortcomings, I may be granted this one request, namely, that all who are now present will respond to the sentiment—

"Success to the St. James's Society of Industry and Arts."

Appendix (G.)

No. 1.

MINISTERS of various Denominations who attended "Underhill Meetings."

Church of England.

Rev. A. J. Davidson, Rector of Hanover; Rev. J. H. Moore, Rector of St. Mary.

Wesleyan.

Rev. T. Geddes, Savanna-la-Mar; Rev. J. Hutchenson, Lucea.

United Presbyterian.

Rev. J. Campbell, Lucea; Rev. W. Carlisle, Lucea; Rev. J. Simpson, Port Maria.

Formerly recognised Wesleyan Minister.

Rev. J. Vaz, Savanna-la-Mar.

Secession Methodist.

Rev. J. F. Roach, Kingston.

Baptist.

European.	Native.
Rev. E. Hewitt, St. James.	Rev. W. Burke, Westmoreland
„ W. Dendy, „	„ E. Palmer, Kingston.
„ J. E. Henderson „	„ G. Moodie, Clarendon.
„ J. Reid, „	„ T. Smith, St. Mary.
„ C. Randall, Hanover.	
„ W. Claydon, Clarendon.	

Number of Baptist Ministers who took no part in the Meetings:

European 15; Native 16; 31 out of 41.

No. 2.

UNDERHILL MEETINGS.

Time.	Convened.		Denomination of Ministers attending.
	Place.	By whom.	
29 April 1865	Savanna-la-Mar -	- - - -	Two Wesleyans.
4 May „	Kingston - -	Mayor - -	One Baptist; one Secession Methodist.
13 „ „	Spanish Town -	Senior Magistrate	
2 „ „	Clarendon - -	Baptist Minister -	Two Baptist Ministers.
17 „ „	Lucea - - -	Custos - -	Two Baptist, one Wesleyan, one Church of England, and two United Presbyterian.
27 „ „	Montego Bay -	Custos - -	Three Baptist.
24 June „	Easington - -	Custos - -	One Baptist.
21 May „	Morant Bay -	Custos.	
21 June „	Port Maria - -	Custos - -	One Church of England, one United Presbyterian, and one Baptist.
31 „ „	St. Ann's Bay, Vere	Custos.	

EXTRACT from "Lyons' Shipping and Commercial Newspaper," of Tuesday, 23d May 1865.

PUBLIC MEETING on the STATE of the ISLAND.

A PUBLIC meeting was held at the Court House, in the town of Montego Bay, on Friday last, for the purpose of considering the letter of Dr. Underhill, on the state of the Island. There was a very large assemblage of persons in the town at an early part of the day, and when we entered the Court House at about 11 o'clock, the place was crowded. Among those who were present at the meeting we noticed the following gentlemen:—

The Honourable G. L. Phillips, Custos; the Reverends Mr. Mearns and Mr. Smith, Wesleyans; the Reverend Mr. Thompson, Presbyterian; the Reverends Mr. Dendy, Mr. J. E. Henderson, Mr. Hewitt, and Mr. G. R. Henderson, Baptists; Reverend Mr. Holt, Native Baptist; Wellesley Bourke, Esq., Senior Member of Assembly for the Parish; Neil Malcolm, Wm. Kerr, E. R. Chambers, R. W. Buchanan, J. W. Parkin, Esqrs., Justices of the Peace; Thomas Brown, Esq., Clerk of the Peace; Messrs. Philpotts Brown, Wm. Williams, Andrew Carter, John Jackson, Albert Morales, Robert Fowler, Wm. Gregory, J. P. Corinaldi, — Plummer, Wm. Dewar, Wm. Whittingham, Joseph Levy, Jos. Whittingham, H. C. McAnuff, Chas. Barrett, R. Rodrigues, — Younger, Sidney Levien, and Geo. Lyons; Drs. Kelly and DeLeon. There were several other gentlemen whose names we could not ascertain; and there must have been upward of 1,000 labourers, artizans, and others present.

His Honor the Custos opened the proceedings by reading the requisition asking for, and notice to convene the meeting. Now, gentlemen, under this requisition you have met here to-day. I must certainly say that I am surprised at seeing so large an assemblage present; I had no intention of attending here to-day, not being in unison and sentiment with persons taking an interest in the matter. But I see now persons of all classes present, gentlemen of influence, and other parties, and of labourers a fair assemblage also. I hope to be supported to keep order, and that you will conduct yourselves peaceable and orderly. You cannot expect all to be of one opinion and of one mind, and therefore you will keep order, so long as any one expresses their opinion properly. You will now, gentlemen, proceed to nominate a chairman.

Reverend J. E. Henderson proposed, seconded by the Reverend George Henderson, that his Honor the Custos be respectfully requested to take the chair, which was carried by acclamation.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, it being your pleasure that I shall take the chair, I do so, and I shall at once proceed to tell you the object of the meeting. That object is to take into consideration a letter of Dr. Underhill's on the state of the country, addressed to the Secretary of State.

I am only here acting officially, only taking the vote on resolutions that may be presented for your approval. The resolutions passed here might not meet my views. Therefore, I shall not feel myself bound by them. I am a man only of moderate views, and may not agree with either party. One thing I would submit to so large a meeting like this, your omitting to make a cry of ruin to the country. It will not do for strong, able men to cry ruin. (A voice, we are ruined.) Before you go to any one to cry ruin, you will be told to try everything to avert it. A great deal of distress exists, but not where they say it exists. There are a good many old and infirm people whom I would join in aiding, but cannot join with large proprietors who cry of ruin. What capitalist would lend money if we cried ruin; and without a chance of getting it back. There is a point to which I would call the attention of any gentleman having resolutions to present to the meeting, that is, to append to their resolutions a request to the British Government to appoint a Commission to make the necessary inquiries into the state of the country. And if the Government shall respond to the request and appoint and send out from England one, two, or more gentlemen of unprejudiced mind to perform that duty, there is no doubt that great good would be done. And if the Commissioners said that we required it, we might expect some relief from the Government. There should be a Commission of inquiry sent, to report truly and correctly, and not one side or the other. As there are, I presume, some gentlemen prepared with resolutions to offer the meeting, I am now ready and shall be glad to receive and submit them; and any gentleman desirous of addressing the meeting will, I am sure, have a patient hearing.

Mr. Bourke, the Senior Member for the parish, was called upon by the assemblage, when that gentleman, stepping forward, spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, as I have been requested to take the initiative I will proceed to express the sentiments I feel, and which is no doubt the same that is felt throughout the country. There are some, perhaps, with whom we do not agree. We ought not to cry wolf! wolf! until the wolf is at our door. Like Hercules in the fable, let every one put his shoulder to the wheel, and then cry for help. We are ruined. Ruin is not confined to one class of the people—it is not confined to the lower class. Therefore let every one unite in achieving what we can to save ourselves if possible. Distress is rampant over the country—it overspreads the country like a dead pall. But the Government is responsible for that distress under which we suffer. Who don't say that we should help ourselves; but I say we do not, because we cannot. The power is taken out of our hands. (Hear, hear.) I admit, if we had the means in our hands, it would be paltry if we did not. Great Britain has had a large share in bringing about our

present state. We won't open the question of the abolition of slavery. Great Britain by pressure from without emancipated the people; but adequate compensation was not given. Slavery was forced on the country years ago against the wish of the people, who were compelled to adopt the institution against their better feeling and better judgment. Great Britain was grossly mistaken when she carried out a great favoured question. The emergency was brought to bear forcibly against us, and the germ of all our misfortunes was laid when we were forced upon so unequal a competition; it was brought upon us by the admission of slave-grown sugar on the same footing as that of sugar produced by free labour.

I fear if we appeal simply on the score of our impoverished circumstances, she will use the very words of your Honour (the chairman) by saying "Help yourselves, and so forth; but I shall anticipate that, by telling her that we cannot help ourselves, we are so fettered, bound hand and foot. Great Britain will say, you poor, look at your Appropriation Bill! (Hear, hear.) Great Britain would tell you, and properly, you have a free institution—you have your House of Assembly; you have your Legislative Council; you have your own form of government; go and help yourselves.

Every one has his own particular nostrum to apply as a remedy to the evils under which we labour; but let us sink that, and act together. When a surgeon is called for a cutaneous disease he attacks it at the root. So let this meeting act with regard to the object for which we have met here to-day; let us take a high stand.

Our ruin was commenced by Great Britain, and by her consummated. We are not as we were some 20 years ago. Look at Montego Bay, and the other towns; look at their decadence, and in them see ruin that exists throughout the length and breadth of the land. Then, again, I say we are powerless to reform our institutions. We can only refer to Great Britain. What care the representatives of the people for you so long as they fatten on the land. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bourke here read several resolutions, with which he came prepared, and handed them to the chairman. He then continued his address. There were 47 Members of Assembly, of whom he might say 40 were thieves. (A Voice: Ali Baba, and the Forty Thieves.) Yes, they were like Ali Baba and his 40 thieves, only that our 40 thieves are vampires on the public purse; there were only seven honest men. Then there were three watchmen put to watch, on the principle that the planters put watchmen to watch their cane-fields. Set a thief to catch a thief; but watchmen and all were thieves. (Roars of laughter.)

The only one I shall leave untouched is the Governor, because I think he is more to be pitied than censured; it is impossible for him to govern with such tools satisfactorily, nay, even if we had an angel sent down from heaven, would this unfortunate country be governed beneficially with such *materiel* as we now have? And why is this; because we are not fairly represented. Cornwall, with a population of 72,000 male inhabitants, and contributing two-fifths of the whole revenue of the country, has 10 representatives; while Surrey, with 52,000 males, and contributing two-fifths of the revenue, has 19 representatives; and Middlesex, with 82,000 males, and contributing one-fifth of the revenue, has 18 representatives. (A Voice: Then let us have 20 more.) What! Twenty more —where are you to get them, unless you make up 60 thieves instead of 40? No; if we must have representatives reduce the number. Now, with 19 members for Surrey and 18 for Middlesex, what chance has Cornwall? We cannot effect any good for the country, because, while the very few members who represent Cornwall have to travel a long distance and at great expense to attend the Sessions, those who represent the other counties are, with but few exceptions, around the seat of government, and can rally at any moment to attend the House and execute their corrupt purposes. This meeting does not partake of a special character. When we talk of the people we talk of all classes; and I am glad to observe that, although my request, through circulars and the newspapers to the planters and others, has been at short notice, I say that I am glad to notice that all classes have responded to the call. My only regret is that sufficient time was not afforded to make it a county instead of a parochial meeting. I have in my hand now a letter from two of the most enterprising and successful gentlemen in the country—men about whom there can be no question as to their experience in, and practical knowledge of the affairs of the country and its present condition—and what are the opinions of these gentlemen? Mark, not men who take, or have ever taken a part in political affairs, but, on the contrary, who have ever refused to mix themselves up with the politics of the day. Now, what do these gentlemen say; you shall hear, for I will read their letter, and this meeting can then judge:—

(We are unable to give the extracts from Mr. Thompson's letter to-day, but will do so in our next issue.)

Here we have the calm, deliberate opinion of Mr. William Sewell and Mr. Simon Thompson. (A Voice: What is he; a European?) Mr. Bourke: Yes,—(loud and incessant cheering)—of Trelawny, chiming in with the spirit of the resolutions I have this day presented for your approval—resolutions that I was actually preparing and placing upon paper at about the same moment that this letter must have been written—for, when I received that communication my resolutions were already prepared, as they now are, thus showing that unanimity of feelings and of purpose so essentially necessary in the execution of our object. As there are other gentlemen, Mr. Chairman, who are desirous of addressing the meeting, I must make way for them. I fear that I have already taken up too much time—(No, no; go on, go on)—I appreciate the compliment; but it is due to others that they should have the opportunity of giving expression to their opinions.

Mr.

Mr. Bourke retired, amid continuous cheers and plaudits, for the Senior Member of St. James.

Rev. Mr. Hewitt—Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, I do not appear before you to-day in the capacity of a Baptist minister—perhaps to a great many it would not prove acceptable, but to many it would. I appear as Edward Hewitt, a British subject and a citizen of Jamaica. We should be united in the conclusion that we come to this day. We are one. I speak on my own behalf, and I believe I express the sentiments of those gentlemen on the platform and others who are present. If you live, we live; if you die, we die also. The Custos, planters, merchants, officials, labourers are all in the same boat, and if anybody makes a hole in the bottom we all go down. The individual who lifts his finger to divide the people is an enemy and ought to be scouted: we are all united in the one consideration, that we are poor. If we sit down to devise the means of relief we may differ. Some people are poor because they are lazy; some because they are wicked; some are thieves. We have 40 thieves who fatten on your substance: Mr. Bourke is one of the members of Assembly, but he is not one of the 40 thieves. Ask the merchants of Montego Bay if you are poor. Are they selling the goods they once did; have you the money you had once to purchase? (No, no; less wages too.) There are hundreds, aye, thousands of children who can't go to school, because they have not decent clothing. We are all of us too heavily taxed. If they could tax the water we drink and the air we breathe, they would. We ought to place ourselves in a position to remedy these evils. We are taxed to the tune of 45,000 *l.* for Church purposes. (A Voice: No sectarianism here.) I disclaim any such intention. I would not say one word disrespectful of the ministers of the Church, neither will I give utterance to one word in regard to the forms of that Church, for however much we may differ in our forms we are all Christians, and working, I hope, for the one good cause. I simply refer to the burthen of taxation for Church purposes. Then again, we are all taxed heavily for immigration purposes. (Several voices: No, no, the planters are exclusively taxed for that.)

Some confusion took place here, and amid much noise, Mr. Hewitt explained that he did not refer to the present Immigration Act, but that he alluded to the heavy debt incurred years ago, for which we were now taxed to pay the interest and redeem the loan for the principal.

Mr. Hewitt, in continuation: You must be more industrious; work more, and be more religious. Mr. Chairman, I beg leave to submit a set of resolutions that I have prepared for this meeting, not knowing if any other would be prepared. I do not place my resolutions antagonistic to those of Mr. Bourke's, for I must admit that with some alteration Mr. Bourke's resolutions are indeed good. (Mr. Hewitt here read his resolutions, and handed them to the chairman.)

Rev. Mr. Reid.—Mr. Chairman, gentlemen, I am exceedingly glad to see so many planters and persons of all classes present. It shows the spirit with which we are united, and must be productive of good. I will not say one word to cause any bad feeling by any gentleman here. The root of the evil has been properly struck at by the Honourable Senior Member of the parish, Mr. Bourke. We have not sufficient capital in the country. I said before Sir Lionel Smith some years ago, when he was Governor of Jamaica, publicly at Vere, that if I had the will every estate throughout the island should be a garden. I fear not the future of Jamaica; she has nothing to fear if she would help herself. If the Legislature would admit their errors, and make laws to benefit the country, we might look forward to better and happier days; but if they will not, then I say, do away with them and let us be governed from home. (Cheers.)

Rev. J. F. Henderson.—I understand the object of this meeting is to take into consideration the letter of Dr. Underhill. But I am truly glad that the Honourable Member for St. James has introduced the subject as he has done. I go for the doing away of the Assembly. If it were a representative assembly I would love it; but, call this a representative assembly? why, just as the people had become aware of the value of their privileges, they were virtually disfranchised, by a tax of 10 *s.* on the 6 *l.* freeholders, as a registration fee (Mr. Bourke, that was done by the friend of the people, Mr. Jordon); well, I am sorry that so serious a charge is laid on Mr. Jordon, but I would fain believe that it did not originate from him; no doubt it was forced upon him, and he had to do the dirty work of others; but he should not have done it. The country is not fit for self-government. They have proved unfit for it. I hold in my hand a speech of Mr. Bourke's copied into the columns of an English newspaper. I don't agree in all he says; I believe that flogging would do good to some worthless characters.

"The state of the colony was most impoverished. The description of food imported into the island, more particularly in the country parishes, tended to produce disease. The clothing was of an inferior description, and the price demanded was beyond the reach of the labouring man. * * * Yet the Legislature applied the lash to minor crimes, the people being driven to the commission of them by hunger and want."

Has Mr. Underhill or myself said more; then why should the Kingston press howl as they do against Mr. Underhill and me? Mr. Whitelocke also said more than we have. But the Kingston press do not take notice of Mr. Bourke. Why let him go free? and howl against me. Because they are afraid; they would get as good, and something more, from Mr. Bourke if they attacked him. People say the merchants cheat them in selling bad cloth (a voice, yes). You know nothing about it; they can't help themselves; there are causes which you know nothing about which compels the merchant to import an inferior description of cloth upon which higher duties are paid than were formerly on a

better description. Then again, some say the planters cheat them by not giving sufficient wages; I believe that it would be better for the planters if they had not a root of cane in the land last year. No one can travel through the country and go to the estates, but must notice your distress by the clothing you are obliged to wear. If Dr. Underhill was not a Baptist, and had not been the secretary of the Baptist Society, his letter would have been gladly received.

In 1854 the debt of the island was 480,000 *l.*, now it is nearly 1,000,000 *l.*, or at least between 800,000 *l.* and 900,000 *l.* Who is to pay that debt? This debt will go on increasing year after year, and those who contract it will presently go away and leave you to pay it; for you, who are tied to the soil, have nowhere else to go to, and you will have to stay and bear the burthen. A single more hogshead of sugar has not been made by the introduction of immigrants. Mr. Hewitt said the debt contracted in previous years has to be paid by the people, but not the recent tax laid upon exports for immigration. £.45,000 of taxes is laid upon us for Church purposes, and I perceive several grants for various Churches, which ought to be prevented; I wish Mr. Bourke would initiate this matter, but as there is also a grant to the Roman Catholics he may not perhaps like to do so.

Mr. Bourke.—That grant never met my approval, and I would have prevented it if I could.

Mr. Henderson.—Among other grants I noticed one for a Baptist Church. I would rather see every Baptist Church perish than go for State relief. I hope other parties will speak here to-day; it is not a sectarian meeting. Mr. Bourke's circular has brought a large number of all classes together. The distress of the country is apparent when strong men cannot earn more than two or four shillings a week. And if estates cannot give more, the people will have to get possession of the back-lands, and endeavour to improve their circumstances.

Mr. Levien.—Nothing that I could travel over that has not been teamed over. But there is one feature of the proceedings that I would call the attention of the meeting to, and that is, the meeting was called for taking into consideration the state of the country, as represented by the letter of Mr. Underhill. We have testified as to the robbery of the Assembly, their unfitness and the unfitness of our legislators generally to govern, but not to the truth of Mr. Underhill's letter. I can bear testimony, as an editor, to the increase of crime. Larceny is on the increase in Saint James. Day after day innumerable cases are brought before the petty sessions for stealing canes, cocoanuts, and provisions from the planter, and from the poor, to make them poorer still. Canes have been a food for the peasantry from time; from their infancy the labouring class have sucked it in, and it is a part of their system. When there were 500 estates, and canes were in abundance, the planters did not care how much canes were eaten by the labourers, for it made them healthy and strong to do their work; but now, when there are so few estates, and consequently less canes, it was an object to protect their cane-fields. Had Mr. Underhill said people suffered from actual starvation he would not have gone too far. This meeting should set forth as a preliminary to any resolutions that may be adopted, the following resolution.—(*See* resolutions.)

Mr. John E. Gabay offered a few remarks, among others, that in the district in which he kept a shop there were 800 labourers, and the sales made to them did not average a farthing a day. That the taxes were heavy; while duties were paid upon a barrel of pork as weighing 200 lbs. the actual contents was only 170 lbs., thus increasing the cost of that which was consumed by the people.

Rev. Samuel Holt.—I am glad the opportunity is afforded me of addressing you on this occasion. There is one thing which I alone fear when I make my appearance at a place like this, it is the fear that I may be taken up and brought to the bar of grammar for murdering the Queen's English (roars of laughter). I have laboured as hard as most people here; I have laboured as a slave in the times of slavery. We hear a rumble at a distance, like an earthquake, but can't find it out until Mr. Underhill's letter came. The people not poor! why there is not a person here having as much clothing or money now as they had two years ago (loud cries,—no, no). Reduction of taxation must be made or we shall all go to pot together. I remember reading of a ship in a storm—when the ship was in danger did they keep everything on board? no; they unladed the ship and they all escaped to land, and no doubt made up their losses (cheers),—when they shall have taken the horse from us, and the bed from under us, I suppose they will tax the fishes next. (laughter and cheers.) We were called upon not long ago to subscribe for the poor Irish, and the Lancashire and Manchester distress; did they wait until the people were naked and starved? (Loud and continued cheers.) I daresay there were many to be found among the poor and distressed people for whom aid was asked, that were as well, and perhaps better dressed than some of you here, yet all combined to assist them. We must all work. I have made 50 barrels of sugar of my own labour; why don't you do so? I spent the better part of my days as a slave; many of you have not. There are lazy people. I have an opportunity of seeing the people in their houses, and can judge of their condition, and they are poor; but all are poor alike. The merchants and shopkeepers feel the poverty of the people; if quashie don't come down with his basket of yams on Saturday, the storekeeper looks grum, casts his eyes to the Heavens, and thinks it looks cloudy (roars of laughter).

In no other country that I know is the staff of life left so exclusively to the labourer. (Hear, hear.) If the poor brown and white man were to work, even like quashie, it would

would be better. (Hear, hear.) But no; you will see strong and healthy men, young men, too, dressed off to the nines, and spunging for a meal at this friend, and a dinner at that friend, instead of earning their bread by the sweat of their brow and becoming independent; depend upon it that such examples produce a great deal of mischief. The Rev. gentleman offered other remarks that our space will not admit; but we confess that we are unable to do justice to this speaker in our report. His was the speech of the day, and such was the effect upon those whom he addressed, that he was cheered for some time after he had left off speaking.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, as it does not appear that any other present desires to address the meeting, it now becomes my duty to submit these resolutions to you for approval. Mr. Hewitt having withdrawn his, I shall submit Mr. Bourke's.

The resolutions were then read separately and each placed to the meeting, all of which were approved of unanimously, as also the one offered by Mr. Levien.

Rev. Mr. Dendy.—I expected that a motion adopting the suggestion offered by his Honor the chairman would have been introduced with the resolutions just passed. I now beg leave to offer a resolution embodying that suggestion.—(*See* resolution.)

I did not expect to speak at this meeting. My own views, and that of those associated with me, are on the way to the mother country. This is the most important resolution; we want a person or persons not to be influenced either one way or the other; one who will go through the island without reference to any party. Much has been said in reference to taxation, and it is unnecessary to say more on that question; but there is one tax to which I will specially refer, the tax upon carts. This is very hard upon the working man, and to a certain extent defeats itself. When carts were not taxed, the towns were more largely supplied with provisions direct from the country. There were more carts then in use, for the provisions that would have to be brought on the heads of 20 persons now used then to be conveyed in one cart. The tax on carts has done away with the use of them generally, for conveying provisions to market; a larger amount of labour capital has to be employed in conveying a decreased supply of provisions to the towns, while the doing away with their carts has deprived wheelwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, &c., of the profit of their labour in the making and repairing of them, thus inflicting injury on several classes. Mr. Dendy remarking on the system of legislating said, under the Appropriation Act we see grants made, no one knowing them until they are passed. Many of these grants are not in strict accordance with the principles of responsible government, or the principle propounded by the new constitution. In the Assembly you see some Honourable Member proposing that a message be sent over to his Excellency the Governor requesting that he will introduce a measure for expending, or a vote granting money, for which "this house will indemnify him." This is a wrong principle, and it was to place a check upon such corrupt practices that the new Constitution Act was framed. Of what use is the Executive Committee if any, and every member of Assembly has such power. In England such a thing is not known. For the last 20 years there has been only one such instance, and that was when a grant was asked for the Havelock Testimonial.

The resolution was read to the meeting and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Lyons suggested the necessity of appointing a committee to prepare the memorial in accordance with the last resolution passed, proposing that his Honor the Custos be requested to sign the memorial on behalf of the meeting, which was agreed to.

The chairman named as such committee—

Rev. Walter Dendy, Wellesley Bourke, Esq., Rev. J. E. Henderson, Rev. James Reid, and George Lyons, Esq.

On motion of the Rev. Mr. Hewitt, it was resolved to publish the resolutions in the several newspapers named.—(*See* resolutions.)

Rev. J. E. Henderson moved that the thanks of the meeting be tendered to Mr. Bourke for his attendance, and the information he has given us this day. This was agreed to with three cheers for the Senior Member.

Mr. Bourke thanked the meeting for the compliment paid him. He would have been unworthy in his duty if he had not attended to the call of his constituents; and concluded by proposing the thanks of this meeting be given to his Honor the Custos for his kindness in taking the chair, and the manner in which he had conducted the meeting. Now, then, nine cheers for our Custos; and right heartily were they given, until they made "the welkin ring."

Three cheers, and hearty loyal cheers too, were given for our beloved Queen, and the meeting separated.

— No. 9. —

(No. 109.)

No. 9.
Lieut. General H.K.Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. 9 May 1866.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B., to the Right Honourable *Edward Cardwell*, M.P.

King's House, 9 May 1866.
(Received, 30 May 1866.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 177, 21 June 1866, page 58.)

IN my Despatch, No. 98,* of the 23d ultimo, I transmitted to you a Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union, and referred the duplicate copy to Governor Eyre, for any observations he might have to offer on it.

* Page 13.

2. I have now the honour to transmit a letter, with enclosures from Mr. Eyre, addressed to me, with his observations on the memorial.

30 April 1866.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. K. Storks.*

Enclosure in No. 9.

Sir, Flamstead, Jamaica, 30 April 1866.

Enclosure in No. 9.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's Despatch, No. 97, of the 23d instant, transmitting to me, for any observations I might have to offer upon it, the duplicate of a Memorial from the Jamaica Baptist Union, addressed to the Secretary of State.

The purport of the Memorial appears to be to vindicate the Baptist ministers of Jamaica from charges, which they allege, have been made by myself against them as a body, or against individual missionaries connected with them.

Having, in a communication dated 28th March, replied to the Secretary of State's Despatches, No. 84, of the 22d February, and No. 95, of the 1st March, forwarding correspondence, with Dr. Underhill on the same subject, it is unnecessary for me to make any very lengthened comments on the present Memorial.

I wish, however, distinctly to point out that any statements made in my former Despatches to the Secretary of State, condemnatory of the course taken by certain Baptist missionaries, did not apply, and were never intended to apply, to the Baptist missionaries as a body, but only to the few individuals who, in some of the communications, were especially referred to by name. I distinctly stated in my Despatch, No. 251, of the 20th October 1865, that "I believe a large majority of the Baptist ministers have been most anxious to support the authorities, to teach the people to be loyal and industrious, and to endorse the advice given to the peasantry by Her Most Gracious Majesty."

I gave similar evidence before the Royal Commissioners, and I repeated my opinion in my Despatch to the Secretary of State, of the 28th March last.

I can only regret, therefore, that the Baptist missionaries should assume that they have, as a body, been in any way called in question, or that they should consider themselves bound to defend the individual missionaries whose conduct has been animadverted upon.

I see no grounds for changing the opinions I have already expressed as to the evil tendency of the course of action taken by the particular missionaries referred to, and I still believe that action to have been largely conducive to the feeling of dissatisfaction and discontent which, during the past year, agitated the negro mind, and culminated in sedition and rebellion.

Attached to the Memorial is a copy of "Lyon's Shipping and Commercial Newspaper" appended, to show that different accounts were given of the same meeting; but the chief difference seems to be that the "County Union" gives fuller details of the speeches. Both papers show that taxation, the State Church, and immigration were topics chiefly dwelt upon; indeed "Lyon's Newspaper," transmitted by the Baptist Union, adds the further question of the "Back Lands;" making Mr. Henderson say, "If estates cannot give more, the people will have to get possession of the back lands, and endeavour to improve their circumstances." The Report of the Royal Commission will probably show the views entertained by the black population with regard to these "Back Lands," and that this is another topic relative to which much excitement has existed.

I cannot suppose it possible that Mr. Henderson did not at the time see and read the report of the Underhill meeting published in the "County Union," and if so, and it in any way misrepresented his views or his remarks upon points of such importance, it would have been an easy matter to have disowned them at the time. He did not do so, and I could, of course, only assume that the report was substantially correct in all essentials. I append a copy of a letter published early in January in the local newspapers by Messrs. Henderson, Hewitt, and Reid, which will clearly show the spirit by which those reverend gentlemen are actuated. It plainly indicates the use they were prepared to make of mass meetings, to be got together through any influence they might be enabled to exercise over the people as their ministers, and they hold out their intention thus to withdraw the labourers from sugar making at a time when their services are most required, as a threat to prevent the planters from giving a free expression of opinion relative to the late rebellion.

The

The quotations made from my Despatches in the Memorial do not require any comment from me; the passages speak for themselves. The facts upon which my statements were founded are given in the Despatches, and a reference to those Despatches in the Blue Books mentioned will show the circumstances under which, and the dates at which, all my communications were made to the Secretary of State. Some of these, it will be seen, were forwarded during the prevalence of martial law, and under a pressure of work which prevented me, as stated at the time, from analysing or reporting more fully upon them. (*See* page 106, "Disturbances in Jamaica." Part I., No. 22.)

The memorialists complain that I forwarded "unfounded rumours" and "newspaper reports" prejudicial to their characters, without previous inquiry from them.

The instances quoted are: First, the account given in the "County Union" newspaper of the speeches said to have been made by certain Baptist ministers at the Underhill meeting at Montego Bay.

The Memorial states that these gentlemen (Messrs. Hewitt, Reid, Henderson, and Dendy) "repudiate the report of their speeches, as being inaccurate and misleading, and Mr. Henderson, in a separate letter, adds, "I never delivered the speech as reported."

None of the parties deny that they did harangue the people on the subjects ascribed to them, excessive and unjust taxation, and the exaction of taxes to support a Church to which they did not belong, or to import immigrants who were to displace the native labourers, topics which, when put before the negroes in this point of view by their ministers and advisers, were sure to create discontent, and to stimulate resistance to constituted authority.

Secondly. The rumour that Mr. Hewitt intended to preside at a monster meeting on the 30th October 1865.

This was not a "rumour," but a written statement communicated to me by the Hon. H. Westmorland (Member of the Executive Committee), who had received it from the Hon. J. MacDowell (a Member of the Legislative Council), to whom it had been communicated by Mr. Charles Levy (a Member of Assembly), who received it direct from Mr. Hart, of Montego Bay.

This communication, being dated 29th October, was written prior to the proclamation of the amnesty, and before troops (which had been urgently called for) could be sent to the Western districts. It was considered of sufficient importance by all the gentlemen named to be made the subject of a special communication to the Governor.

The memorialists admit that Mr. Hewitt, in common with other neighbouring ministers, "had announced his intention to hold the annual missionary meeting in connection with his congregation, usually held at the season at which it was announced to take place," but that it was deferred at the instigation of the magistrates. Under the circumstances then existing in the Colony, it was, to say the least, very indiscreet to attempt to collect the black people in large masses for any purpose whatever.

Thirdly. The report that the Rev. W. Claydon made an inflammatory speech at a jubilee chapel in July, and that disorderly assemblages took place in front of a rum shop kept on the Baptist mission premises near Porus.

The Blue Book would show that the allegation against Mr. Claydon was made by the Honourable J. Hollingsworth, custos of the parish, who quoted the name of the party from whom he received his information. I have had no opportunity of referring the denial of the memorialists to Mr. Hollingsworth for further inquiry or explanation.

The Blue Book would also show that the complaint that a rum shop was kept on the Baptist Mission premises was made by the Rev. A. Lindo, London missionary. The memorialists admit that Mr. Claydon did let "an outbuilding" as a store, and do not deny that it was used as a rum shop.

Fourthly. The opinion expressed in the "Jamaica Guardian," of the 20th December 1865, that "Dr. Underhill's letter, and the action of certain Baptist missionaries and others regarding it, were some of the principal causes of the St. Thomas-in-the-East rebellion," and the charge made in the same paper against the missionaries of "calling mass meetings" of the peasantry to show them that they were suffering from abject poverty and distress to the point of starvation, &c.

I can only repeat my already expressed conviction that Dr. Underhill's letter "and the action of certain Baptist missionaries, and others regarding it," largely contributed to the state of feeling amongst the peasantry, which culminated in rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and would, had that outbreak not been most promptly crushed out, have soon led to a general insurrection throughout the entire island.

For the effect of Dr. Underhill's letter upon the negro mind, I would refer to the speech of the Rev. S. Holt (a black man), at Montego Bay, published at page 204 of Papers on the Affairs of Jamaica, February 1866. With regard to the use to which certain Baptist ministers are inclined to put mass meetings, I refer to the letter of Messrs. Henderson, Hewitt, and Reid herewith transmitted.

The memorialists deny the correctness of my report that the Underhill meetings were got up mostly through the agency of Baptist missionaries, and they appeal to the fact that six of these meetings were convened by custodes, one by a senior magistrate, and one by the Mayor of Kingston.

The act of convening meetings is a ministerial act and a mere matter of form, and does not imply that the parties so convening them agree in the objects for which they are called, or concur in the proceedings which take place. The meeting at Montego Bay is a case in

point. It was not only convened by but presided over by the custos, the Honourable G. L. Phillips, who, however, recorded "my dissent generally from the resolutions signed by me officially as chairman."

In reference to the "getting up" of this meeting, the Rev. J. Henderson says (*see* his letter of the 23d March 1866, appended to the Memorial): "I had nothing whatever to do with getting up any of the so-called 'Underhill meetings,' with the exception of the one at Montego Bay."

The Memorial admits that 10 out of the 41 ministers "in connection with their body" did take part in Underhill meetings in different parts of the Colony, and that one of their recognised ministers was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for uttering seditious language at one of those meetings.

I think these facts fully justify the opinions I expressed. For further details connected with any of the meetings brought under my notice, I must refer to my Despatches published in the Blue Books. I invariably placed before the Secretary of State all the information I was in possession of, so as to enable him to form his own conclusions with regard to my statements.

In the two cases quoted by the memorialists of my having sent extracts from local newspapers, one was to bring under the notice of the Secretary of State a passage which was being circulated in the public journals, purporting to be an extract from a recent letter of Dr. Underhill, the other to submit a letter exhibiting the manner in which, and the objects for which, the Underhill meetings were got up. Any editorial comments accompanying those documents would, of course, be taken for what they were worth, and the Secretary of State was as well able to judge of their value as any one else.

The Memorial again quotes extracts (already two or three times transmitted to the Secretary of State) from the replies of various Governors to addresses from the Baptists of Jamaica, as indicating the high opinion entertained of their character and services by those Governors. Whilst gladly repeating my opinion that a large number of the Baptist ministers are earnest and good men, I must repeat also my regret that there are a few of a contrary spirit, professing ministers of religion, but in reality stirrers up of strife, of whom Sir Charles Metcalfe (one of the ablest Governors Jamaica ever had), most justly wrote, "I entirely renounce the opinion which I at one time entertained, that they (the Baptist ministers referred to) had done more good than harm. The good that they have done would have been done without them. The evil is exclusively their own." (Kaye's Life of Lord Metcalfe, vol. 2, pages 405 and 406).

5 April 1866.

With regard to Appendix E, No. 1, purporting to exhibit a list of the more respectable persons arrested during martial law, and making in the column of "Remarks" a variety of assertions with regard to those cases, I beg to attach a communication from Mr. J. S. Williams, counsel employed in conducting many of the prosecutions for the Crown, pointing out some of the particulars in which the comparisons made are not correct. The writers have, of course, full right to their own opinions, but they are not justified in putting forward those opinions as facts in reference to circumstances of which they could have no personal knowledge whatever.

The late G. W. Gordon is put down as a member of the Church of England, although it is well known that he was re-baptised as a Baptist by the Rev. J. Phillippo only a very few years ago.

It is true that Mr. Gordon, in the trial of Gordon *v.* Ketelhodt, called himself a member of the Church of England, to effect a personal and political object which hinged upon such membership, but this appears to be a mere *façon de parler* amongst the Baptists, for the Rev. S. Oughton, whom no one could, I believe, accuse of having ever belonged to the Church of England, gave evidence at the same trial, that he too (although a recognised Baptist minister) considered himself as a member of the Church of England for civil purposes and in connection with his civil rights.

Under this view of the case all Baptists might be put down as members of the Church of England whenever it was found politic so to classify them.

There are two other points which I wish to bring under your Excellency's notice, one is, that it should never be forgotten that what may be constitutional or harmless for political partisans to say or do amongst a community such as exists in England cannot be safely said or done amongst such a population as we have in Jamaica; the other is, that I have endeavoured, in all my acts or correspondence in connection with the unfortunate controversies which have arisen out of Dr. Underhill's letter, to the best of my ability to preserve a strict impartiality, and to judge justly.

I confidently appeal to all my communications to the Secretary of State as evincing this desire and this spirit, and I can only repeat my very great regret that the Baptist ministers in this Colony, as a body, for many of whom I entertain a sincere respect, or those connected with them at home, should have considered the remarks which it has been my duty to make upon the conduct of a few of the Baptist missionaries out here as reflecting upon the Baptists generally, or that they should have deemed it right to attempt to defend or to identify themselves with conduct in those few which I believe all candid minds upon a perusal of the correspondence will regard as indefensible.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Excellency Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.
&c. &c. &c.,

Sub-Inclosure in No. 9.

Mr. *Williams* to Governor *Eyre.*

Sir, Kingston, 5 May 1866.

In reference to your request that, as counsel for the Government, I should report upon the statement made by certain ministers as to the relative religious callings of persons alleged to be implicated in the recent rebellion, I beg to say that the Appendix in the document shown to me is by no means reliable in that respect, as it most certainly is not in most of its assertions.

1st. Because it omits all the persons to the extent of 80 (including native Baptist preachers), against whom were found true bills for treason, as well as persons to the extent of 25 lately convicted of felonious riot, all of whom were notoriously in the habit of attending the native Baptist conventicles of Gordon, Warren, Bogle, M'Laren, and others.

2d. Because it omits many other persons who were known to be native Baptists, and who might have been, yet were not, prosecuted.

And 3d. Because many of the persons put down as members of the Church of England to the extent of nearly one-half (inclusive of the late G. W. Gordon, who was baptised by one of the principal reverend memorialists), were notoriously not so, or were certainly quite as much reputed to be of any other denomination as of the Church of England.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre, (signed) *J. S. Williams,*
Flamstead, Jamaica. Advocate General.

Extract from the "County Union" newspaper, of January 1866.

To the Editor of the "County Union."

Sir,

It has come to our knowledge that an address is being carried round this town for signatures approving the conduct of Mr. Eyre in suppressing the rebellion at Morant Bay, and reflecting on the loyalty of the population throughout the Colony. As the British Government has resolved upon a searching inquiry into all matters connected with the suppression of the rebellion, we would suggest that no attempt be made to bolster up the cause of Mr. Eyre, by the presentation of addresses to that gentlemen. To say the least, in the present state of things, such conduct shows anything but good taste. The character of the gentleman now at the head of the Government, the presence of a special correspondent of the "Times," as well as that of an able professional gentleman on behalf of the newly-formed Jamaica Committee, are sufficient to satisfy us that the examination about to take place will be fair and thorough, and with this assurance all parties in the island should, we think, be content. If, however, the course begun is continued, let it be at once distinctly understood that counter-addresses will be prepared, and public meetings be called to adopt them. We pledge our words that we will no longer remain silent whilst the masses of the people are maligned and pronounced disloyal. It is due to philanthropists in England, it is due to anti-slavery friends in America, and especially is it due to the great mass of the people here, that means should at once be adopted to prove (assertions now are worth nothing) that in all Her Majesty's dominions she has not more loyal or loving subjects than are the natives of Jamaica. We would rather just now do nothing, but if certain persons compel us to call the people together, it shall be done, and there is proof enough before us that in England, if not here, the negroes' testimony, supported by that of their friends, will be of value quite equal to that of those who are now signing addresses approbatory of the conduct of Mr. Eyre. It is crop time, and the people cannot be better employed than in making sugar, and it certainly will not be our fault if they are called away from their work to deny the wicked and false statements which are being promulgated in reference to them.

Yours, &c.

(signed) *J. E. Henderson.*
Edwd. Hewitt.
James Reid.

Jamaica Baptist Union.

At the Annual Meeting of the "Jamaica Baptist Union," held in Spanish Town on 21 March 1866, and following days,—

It was Resolved,—That this Board, believing that the voluntary principle alone is ordained by God to maintain and extend the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ, hereby enters its protest against all State Grants for religious purposes, and avows the conviction that the payment of the annual stipends of the ministers of the Church of England, and of other churches, out of the public treasury, is not only unsound in principle and unjust towards the large numbers of the Queen's most loyal subjects, not of these communions, but most degrading to the Christian bodies, whose ministers are thus paid, as constituting them State Stipendiary Churches, placing them under the control of the secular power, and infringing on the crown rights of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ellis Fray, Chairman.
Benj. Millard, Secretary.

No. 10.
The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., to Lieut. General Sir H. K. Storks, G. C. B.
21 June 1866.
*Pages 13 and 54.

— No. 10. —

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. *Edward Cardwell*, M.P., to Lieutenant General Sir *H. K. Storks*, G.C.B.

(No. 177.)

Sir, Downing-street, 21 June 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 98,* of the 23d April, forwarding a Memorial addressed to me by the Jamaica Baptist Union; and also of your Despatch, No. 109,* of the 9th ultimo, with copy of a letter and its enclosures from Governor Eyre, furnishing observations on the subject of the Memorial which you had referred to him for his consideration.

I have to request that you will inform the members of the Baptist Union that I have received their Memorial.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Cardwell.*

Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.,
Jamaica.

JAMAICA.

COPIES of a LETTER from Dr. *Underhill*, d
12 February 1866, in reply to a DESPATCH
Governor *Eyre*, dated 1 January 1866; of a M
RIAL of the Missionaries of the *Jamaica* Ba
Union, dated 22 March 1866, addressed to
Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies;
of CORRESPONDENCE between Her Majesty's S
tary of State for the Colonies and the Governo
Jamaica, respecting the LETTER and MEMO
above-mentioned.

(*Sir Morton Peto.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
29 *June* 1866.

[*Price* 8*d.*]

380.

Under 8 *oz.*

JAMAICA.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 2 August 1866;—*for*,

COPY or EXTRACTS "of CORRESPONDENCE between the Board of Admiralty and Admiral *Hope* on the CONDUCT of NAVAL OFFICERS in the recent deplorable OCCURRENCES in *Jamaica*."

Admiralty, 8 August 1866.

J. H. JESSE, For the Chief Clerk.

— No. 1. —

(No. 399.—Five Enclosures.)

Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope* to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Services of Naval Officers employed in suppressing the Insurrection.

Sir, "Duncan," at Port Royal, 22 November 1865.

YOU will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying letters from His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, and the Major General Commanding the Forces, bringing to my notice the services of the naval officers employed in the suppression of the insurrection.

2d. I further enclose a copy of a resolution of the Legislative Council transmitted to me by the Governor, conveying the thanks of that body to the officers and men employed on the same occasion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Hope*,
Vice Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Sir, Head Quarters, Morant Bay, 10 November 1865.

I DO myself the honour to acquaint you that Her Majesty's gunboat, "Nettle," proceeds hence to-morrow, to convey officers' camp equipage, &c., to Kingston; this done, I have not any further need of her services.

In making this communication I beg to be permitted to offer my most grateful thanks to the naval authorities for having placed the "Nettle" at my command.* Her services have been invaluable, and contributed greatly to the success of my operations against the rebels.

I should be wanting in duty to myself, did I not bring to your notice the valuable aid I have derived from Lieutenant Herbert Brand, commanding Her Majesty's gunboat "Nettle." He has been constantly on courts-martial on the rebels, and in whatever manner

* Lieutenant Herbert C. A. Brand, from the beginning of the rebellion up to the date of assuming charge of "Nettle," was with me in command of Her Majesty's gunboat "Onyx."

manner I have employed him, he has shown great zeal, discretion, and judgment, and I owe him a deep gratitude for services rendered, and for which I crave your favourable consideration.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. A. Nelson*, Brigadier General,
Commanding Field Forces.

Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.,
Commander in Chief
H. M. S. "Duncan," Port Royal.

Enclosure 2, in No. 1.

Sir, King's House, 16 November 1865.

HAVING received very valuable assistance from the naval force in this station, in putting down the recent insurrection in the Eastern Provinces of Jamaica, I have much pleasure in transmitting to your Excellency an extract from my Despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, narrating the occurrences of the first week of the rebellion during which it was virtually put down and controlled.

I should be much obliged by your bringing to the favourable notice of the Lords of the Admiralty the names of the officers mentioned in my Despatch; to those therein enumerated I have now to add the name of Lieutenant Oxley, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," who from the very first was landed with 100 men at Morant Bay, was for a long time in command of that post, and did much good service. Lieutenant Oxley was also in command of the party which took possession of Stony Gut, the stronghold of the rebels.

The omission of Lieutenant Oxley's name in my Despatch to the Secretary of State arose from the fact that all his reports having been made to Brigadier General Nelson, I left it to the brigadier first to express his opinion of an officer acting so immediately under him, and I am happy to say that Brigadier Nelson's opinion of the value of Lieutenant Oxley's services is a very high one, and coincides with my own.

I have, &c.
His Excellency Sir James Hope, G.C.B. (signed) *E. Eyre.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 1.

EXTRACT from Governor *Eyre's* Despatch to the Right Honourable *E. Cardwell.*
No. 251, of the 20th October 1865.

70. I REGARDED it not only desirable, but a positive duty, to be personally present to direct and superintend the military movements in the disturbed districts.

From the first moment of the outbreak up to the date of my return to Kingston this afternoon (20 October) every disposition of the troops, and every movement has been made by Brigadier General Nelson, under my own personal instructions and approval.

71. The whole responsibility of what has been done, therefore, rests upon me.

At the same time I beg to express my own deep obligation, and the obligation of the whole community to the military and naval authorities, for the promptitude, energy, and zeal with which they have responded to all my wishes; and at great personal inconvenience, exposure, and hardship, have successfully carried out my requirements.

To Major General O'Connor I am indebted for the extremely ready and rapid manner in which my applications for troops or arms were met, as well as for the able and zealous manner in which during my absence he co-operated with the Executive Committee, and the Custos of Kingston, in initiating and organizing various measures for the protection of the city or parishes.

To the senior naval officer, Captain de Horsey, I am under great obligations, not only for placing his ship, the "Wolverine," at my disposal, but for going in command of her in person, and for the cheerful readiness with which he kept his ship at work almost day and night, from the first outbreak of the rebellion, until his return to port to-day.

To Lieutenant Brand, of the small gunboat "Onyx," I cannot sufficiently express my thanks for the indefatigable and untiring manner in which he kept his vessel plying day and night in a most unpleasant and arduous service.

To Brigadier General Nelson, I owe it that all my wishes as regarded military arrangements in the disturbed districts were carried out with the utmost promptitude and efficiency. We never had a difference of opinion, even upon the propriety or policy of a single act or movement; and the public service was consequently conducted not only satisfactorily, but pleasantly.

72. I should, therefore, respectfully ask you to bring to the favourable notice of His Grace the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief the meritorious conduct and services of Brigadier General Nelson, and to the favourable notice of the Lords of the Admiralty the meritorious conduct and good services of Captain de Horsey, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine;"

verine ;" and of Lieutenant Brand, of Her Majesty's gunboat "Onyx." I append a report by Lieutenant Brand of the proceedings of the "Onyx," between the 12th and 18th October, showing the amount of work, and hard work too, performed in that period. Lieutenant Brand has also been equally engaged between the 18th and 20th, but I have no official report.

The colony is also much indebted to Colonel Hobbs, of Her Majesty's 6th Royal Regiment, commanding the expeditionary force, operating on the line of the Blue Mountain Valley ; to the militia officers who accompanied me in the "Wolverine ;" to Inspector Ramsay, of the police force, whose daring and actions have been most conspicuous ; and, generally, to the troops, sailors, volunteers, and others engaged in the undertaking.

My aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, R.M., rendered very zealous and efficient service both to myself and to Brigadier General Nelson.

73. The exertions of the Executive Committee, and the untiring energy and zeal of the Custos of Kingston, Dr. Bowerbank, are beyond all praise, and justly entitle them to the good opinion, gratitude, and confidence of the colony.

Enclosure 4, in No. 1.

(No. 206.)

Sir, King's House, 15 November 1865.

I HAVE much pleasure in forwarding a copy of a resolution adopted by the Legislative Council, expressive of their "thanks to H. E. Major General O'Connor, C.B., to Captain de Horsey, R.N., late senior officer, and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and the men of Her Majesty's Military and Naval Forces, and to the Volunteer Militia, for their prompt and effectual services in quelling the savage and cruel rebellion in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and for their exertions in arresting its progress elsewhere throughout the island."

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. Eyre.*

His Excellency,
Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Sub-Enclosure.)

Jamaica. In Legislative Council.
10 November 1865.

Resolved,

THAT the Legislative Council desires hereby to express its grateful thanks to His Excellency Major General O'Connor, C.B., to Captain de Horsey, R.N., late senior naval officer, and to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and warrant officers, and the men of Her Majesty's Military and Naval Forces, and to the Volunteer Militia, for their prompt and effectual services in quelling the savage and cruel rebellion in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and for their exertions in arresting its progress elsewhere throughout the island.

(signed) *Saml. Rennalls,*
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Enclosure 5, in No. 1.

Sir, Head Quarters, Jamaica, 20 November 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your information, extracts of a despatch I have received from Brigadier General A. A. Nelson, Commanding Field Forces, bearing testimony to the valuable services rendered by officers of Her Majesty's Navy, during the late operations in the field ; and I assure you it is most gratifying to myself to be enabled to say that I cordially endorse the sentiments expressed by the Brigadier General.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry M. O'Connor,* Major General
Commanding Jamaica and Dependencies.

Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.
Commander in Chief
H. M. Naval Forces, West Indies.

(Sub-Enclosure.)

EXTRACTS from Despatch of Brigadier General A. A. Nelson, Commanding Field Force, to Major General O'Connor, C.B., Commanding Forces Jamaica and Dependencies, bearing date 20th November 1865.

"Lieutenant Oxley, R.N., Commanding the portion of Naval Brigade detached to 'Earington,' performed all duties assigned to him with great zeal and promptitude of

action; in fact, very responsible duties devolved on this part of the forces, and it was impossible to carry them out in a more efficient manner than was done by Lieutenant Oxley."

"Lieutenant Errington, R.N., in command of the troops at Morant Bay, though not actively employed in the field, did his duty to my entire satisfaction, and very arduous it was, it being the head quarters of the field force, thereby involving the usual difficulties of keeping order in a camp into which continuous gangs of rebel prisoners were coming."

"I feel great diffidence in touching on the services rendered by Her Majesty's Navy, but I cannot deprive myself of the pleasure, even if transgressing, of offering my humble meed of thanks to Captain de Horsey, Her Majesty's ship 'Wolverine,' the senior naval officer on the station, during the active operations of the force under my command. Had he not cordially co-operated with me, whatever the final result might have been, so speedy a termination of the rebellion could not have been effected; much, indeed everything, depended on the celerity of our movements, and every required arrangement was carried out by Her Majesty's ship 'Wolverine,' Captain de Horsey, with the greatest zeal and promptitude. I trust Captain de Horsey will do me the favour of accepting my most cordial thanks for the invaluable services rendered."

"Lieutenant Herbert Brand, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's gunboats 'Onyx'* and 'Nettle' respectively, has been unceasing in the performance of his duties; not only has he done much good service in the gunboats, carrying detachments of troops from station to station, as required, but on shore, as President of courts-martial, he has aided me considerably. To this officer, Lieutenant Brand, I feel myself deeply indebted, and I trust his meritorious services may be brought to the notice of the authorities of his own service."

"I crave permission to bring to your notice the names of the following officers:—Lieutenant Oxley, R.N., commanding Detach 'Earington'; Lieutenant O'Connor, Royal Marine Artillery, honourably mentioned by Lieutenant Oxley in despatch to myself; Lieutenant Errington, R.N., commanding Head-quarters, Camp, 'Morant Bay'; Lieutenant Brand, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's gunboats 'Onyx' and 'Nettle.' I have to report that the medical arrangements connected with the force were satisfactorily carried out by Assistant Surgeons Goodman and Terry, R.N."

True Extract,

(signed) *John Elkington*,
Lieutenant Colonel, D.A.G.

— No. 2. —

(No. 76.)

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir *James Hope*.

Sir, Admiralty, 5 February 1866.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith a copy of a letter from the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated the 2d instant, together with Enclosures, relative to a complaint made by General Lamothe, on account of treatment received by him at the hands of certain officers and men of the "Aboukir," on the occasion of his deportation from Jamaica; and I am to signify their Lordships' direction to you to cause inquiry to be made as to the conduct of the naval officers and men complained of, and report the result for their information.

I am, &c.

Vice Admiral Sir J. Hope, G.C.B. (signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Colonial Office, Downing-street,
Sir, 2 February 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter from General Lamothe to Earl Russell, complaining, amongst other things, of his treatment by certain officers and sailors on board Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," on the occasion of his deportation from Jamaica.

28 Dec. 1865.

I am to enclose a copy of a despatch which Mr. Cardwell has addressed to Governor Sir Henry Storks, on the subject, and he presumes that their Lordships will cause inquiry to be made as to the conduct of the naval officers and men complained of.

No. 31, 16 Jan. 1866.

I am, &c.

The Secretary to the Admiralty. (signed) *Frederic Rogers.*

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* "Oynx" was, after a short time, relieved by "Nettle."

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

(No. 31.)

Sir, Downing-street, 16 January 1866.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter addressed to Earl Russell from St. Thomas's, on the 28th December, by General Lamothe, complaining of his deportation from Jamaica; of the manner in which he was treated previously to his deportation by Messrs. Ramsay and Irwin; and by sailors on board Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir;" and of having been deprived of his property and effects, which he requests may be restored to him. 28 Dec. 1866.

You are aware that the question of the deportation of this and other subjects of Hayti was referred to the law officers of the Crown, who were of opinion that the deportation was an act, the justification of which must depend upon its necessity, and cannot be supported upon any grounds of international obligation.

I request you to make inquiry into the particulars of ill-usage complained of, and into the alleged seizure and retention of General Lamothe's goods and effects, and you will be pleased to report to me whether, in your opinion, the conduct of any of the civil officers concerned was needlessly harsh, or otherwise open to censure; and you will no doubt think it right to report to the military authorities at home on the allegations, so far as they concern military officers; and you will state whether General Lamothe was deprived of any portion of his property, and if so, what has become of it.

I shall refer General Lamothe's communication to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for inquiry as to the conduct of the naval officers and men complained of.

I have, &c.

To His Excellency Sir Henry Storks, &c. &c. &c. (signed) *E. Cardwell.*

General *Lamothe* to Earl *Russell.*

Mi Lord, St. Thomas, 28 December 1865.

Dès ma plus tendre enfance, je l'ai eue par tradition, et ma sympathie pour le peuple Anglais s'est accrue avec l'âge. Il m'est impossible d'admettre que mon admiration se reposait sur de simples illusions; je n'ai pas pû me déterminer à prendre un fait isolé pour base de conviction; voilà comment je suis porté à faire arriver ma voix jusqu'à votre seigneurie.

J'ai été victime d'actes excessivement arbitraires à la Jamaïque, et voici de quelle manière:

Alorsque je résidais dans la ville de Kingston, j'engageai mon passage sur la göelette "Oracle," en destination d'Inagua; à cet effet, je m'embarquai le 9 Octobre dans l'après-midi.

La Jamaïque était parfaitement tranquille, et, personne dans ce moment-là, n'y soupçonnait la possibilité du moindre trouble. Le navire partit, et après six jours de route, convoyant dans le passage au vent de la mer des Antilles, il éprouva un nord-est si violent, que ses principaux cordages se rompirent les étais des mâts eurent le même sort force fut au capitaine de laisser arriver.

Lorsqu' enfin le vent tomba, nous étions au delà de l'île Navaze.

Il fut décidé qu'on ferait la terre pour s'approvisionner et réparer les avaries causées par la tempête: c'est dans cet état de détresse que la göelette "Oracle" entra à Port Antonio, village situé au nord de l'île de là Jamaïque. Nous ignorions qu'il fut aucun trouble dans le pays, et, lorsque le pilote nous l'apprît, nous fîmes des objections pour entrer dans le port; mais, il ajouta qu'il n'y avait rien à appréhender, que tout était tranquille à Port Antonio, que le lieu du désordre était à environ 60 milles du village. Rassuris par le pilote, nous allâmes prendre mouillage. Tandisque nous étions là à réparer nos avaries, sans avoir la moindre communication avec la terre, nous vîmes monter à bord 15 hommes armés de pied en cap, ayant en tête un nommé Ramsay, se disant Prévost Marshal à Port Antonio, qui s'exprima ainsi: "All Haïtiens on board must follow me." Sans nos permettre de nous habiller, on nous conduisit entre deux files de soldats au Court-house. Le Capitaine Luke, que nous y trouvâmes, avait d'abord décidé que nous étions libres de continuer notre route; mais, un instant après, survint le Lieutenant Irwin du guard-ship "Aboukir," qui engagea de nous arrêter, vu que, dit-il, tous les Haïtiens residant à Kingston sont prisonniers. Le Capitaine Luke revint sur sa première décision, et nous fûmes, sans aucun autre motif, conduits à la caserne, où l'on nous tint prisonniers dans un état si dégoûtant que je n'ose le réveles à V. S.

Nous étions à peine rendus à la caserne que nous apprîmes que le dit Irwin, accompagné de Ramsay, avait pris possession de "l'Oracle," ainsi que de son chargement et s'était emparé aussi de tous les effets des passagers, et les avait transférés à bord d'un gun-boat qu'il commandait alors. Certains objets à mon usage qui étaient enfermès dans mes malles, et que je reconnus en la possession de Mr. Ramsay, ne me laissèrent aucun doute sur l'integrité du Prévost Marshal de Port Antonio.

Je continuai à subir une détention sans qu'on pût m'en dire la cause.

Quand la nouvelle arriva à Kingston que j'avais été arrêté a Port Antonio, Mr. J. Laraque, agent du Général Geffeard à Kingston, s'entendait avec les journaux que celui-ci y subreptionne, et de cette connivence, on fabriqua un article pour tâcher de m'englober dans la rebellion afin de parvenir à m'arracher la vie: voilà l'histoire vraie de toute cette affaire de plan que V. S. à dû lire sur les journaux de Kingston. Elle n'a aucun autre fondement, et,

bien certainement de la manière qu'on envoyait en masse le monde à la mort, votre serviteur ne serait point là pour avoir l'honneur de vous parler, si de cette diffamation on avait pu trouver; non pas la preuve (car il n'en fallait pas) mais la moindre probabilité de mon rapport avec les revoltés.

Après une semaine de détention à Port Antonio, on nous embarqua sur la corvette "Wolverine," qui nous transporta à Port Royal, d'où nous fûmes transférés à bord du vaisseau "Aboukir." C'est dans ce dernier navire que j'ai eu à endurer des outrages inouïs, sur le main deck, entre deux canons, on m'a exposé à la risée publique! Figuréz vous, mi Lord, un equipage s'environ 500 matelots lançant des épithètes offensantes et des injures à un seul homme! Aprés mille menaces de me pendre, de me fouetter, l'un d'entre eux; enfin, feignant l'ivresse; s'avance à moi, disant "Old negro," il m'assène un soufflet.

Suis-je au milieu d'hommes civilises ou parmi des sauvages? m'écriai-je dans l'exces d'indignation, pourquoi ne pas me tuer une bonne fois? Alors intervint le Commandant Mathew, qui fit chasser la foule des matelots, en défendant la répétition de telles scénes.

Je pensais que c'était pour me juger qu'on m'avait fait venir de Port Antonio; j'avais droit d'éspérer au moins qu'on m'eut fait connâitre le motif pour lequel on a interrompu mon voyage, la cause enfin de mon arrestation.

Rien de tout cela.

Le 1 Novembre le Commandant de "L'Aboukir" me notifia par ordre du Gouverneur Eyre, "Que je pouvais m'adresser à mes agents ou amis par correspondance pour affrêter un navire afin de me transportes ailleurs, et que (quoique je dusse rester prisonnier à bord) si j'étais encore dans l'île de la Jamaïque après le 14e jour de cette notification, je serais pendu. Le lendemain, 2 Novembre, l'on me remit l'ordre d'expulsion du Gouverneur Eyre, motivé sur complot contre un Gouvernement ami. Donc, my Lord, le Gouverneur Eyre confesse par cette acte, qui n'est qu'une copie de sa proclamation d'expulsion contre tous les Haïtiens indistinctement, qu'il n'existe point de motif particulier pour me rechercher cette proclamation d'expulsion, dont d'autres que moi apprécieront la portée, a frappé depuis l'adolescent jusqu'au nonagénaire paralytique, et est en contradiction avec ses considérants; quant à moi, j'y ai obéi d'autant plus volontiers que j'avais déjâ quitté la Jamaïque sans esprit de retour: mais je crains que le Gouverneur Eyre n'ait à se reprocher une complaisance extrême, car de cette amabilité de bon voisinage, tout en servant le ressentiment d'autrui peut surjir des conséquences imprévues qui démontieront que dans la circonstance le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique s'était plutôt attaché à servir une politique toute autre que celle de son gouvernement.

On exècution de l'ordre sous nommée un ami arrêta mon passage sur le royal mail steamer. Où sont mes effets?

J'eus beau demander, j'eus beau prier de me remettre mes malles pour pouvoir me vêtir; ce fut en vain. Dans un état horrible, presque moi, sans chapeau, on me transfera le 9 Novembre à bord du royal mail steamer qui me debarqua ici, à St. Thomas.

Maintenant, mi Lord, je me crois fondé à dire que, m'étant embarqué comme passager à bord d'un navire regulièrement expédié par la douane de Kingston, lequel navire ayant éprouvé des avaries sur mer, n'avait forcément relaché à Port Antonio que pour se parerer contre un pèril imminent. Ce qui est un droit universel que j'ai été saisi sur mer par une force armée d'autant plus irresistible qu'elle disait agir au nom de Sa Majesté la Reine; que cette force, non seulement s'empara de ma personne et de cette de mon fils, mais encore s'appropria de tous mes effets, consistant en vêtements, en drap linge, argenterie, bijoux, papiers, livres, &c. &c. Cette force marine et militaire, commandée par M.M. Ramsay et Irwin, nous a dévalisés enfin?

Mi Lord, je suis officier général. J'appartiens à une nation reconnue par l'Angleterre. Je suis connu du Gouverneur Eyre; c'est sciemment qu'il m'a fait violenter et outrager dans ma dignité; les mêmes motifs qu'il à allégués pour expulser les Haïtiens lui auraient fait observer les convenancés envers eux, s'il n'était pas mû par d'autres sentiments.

Il n'y a aucun precédent, ni dans ma vie privée, ni dans ma carrière politique, pour étayer les riguers et le mépris dont j'ai été l'objet. J'ai vécu à la Jamaïque durant trois ans et demi, solitairement, paisiblement, honnêtement; je puis, au besoin, le faire certifier par la notabilité de Kingston, qui, je suis sûr n'a rien à me reprocher.

Ce n'est point pour crime, ce n'est point pour méfait ni forcément que j'étais allé résider à Kingston comme Ministre du Gouvernement Haïtien, j'ai resigné mon siège dans l'exécutif, pour ne pas en assumer la responsibilité devant mon pays. Voilà l'origine de l'ombrage que l'on conçut contre moi, et pour en éviter les tendances. Je pris le parti de me retirer à l'étranger, uniquement pour avoir la paix. Je suis donc allé me fixer à Kingston, où j'ai, avec gratitude, mêlé ma voix à cettes de tant d'autres victimes politiques, qui, à juste titres, bénissent la securité de l'hospitalité Britannique.

Or, je doute que la condescendance par laquelle le Gouverneur Eyre a bien voulu, si gratuitement, me faire subir tant d'infamies, obtienne l'approbation unanime de mes compatriotes; je doute encore plus, my Lord, que le Gouvernement Anglais y donne son agrément; non, la nation qui marche à la tête de la civilisation, la nation dont le liberalisme est comme un phare à la contemplation du monde, aura, tout comme les victimes, horreur du scandal que les colors de la Jamaïque viennent de commettre envers l'humanité.

C'est pénétré de cette conviction, my Lord, que

J'ai, &c.

(signé) *J. H. Lamothe.*

— No. 3.—

(No. 99.)

Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope* to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Alleged Ill-Treatment of General Lamothe.

Sir, "Duncan," at Jamaica, 8 March 1866.

You will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in reply to your letter of the 5th ultimo, No. 76M, that I shall order an inquiry into the treatment of General Lamothe, so far as such concerns the officers and men under my command, and that the result will be reported to their Lordships by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Hope*,
Vice Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

— No. 4. —

(No. 114.—Seven Enclosures.)

Vice-Admiral Sir *James Hope* to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Alleged Ill-Treatment of General Lamothe.

Sir, "Duncan," at Jamaica, 17 March 1866.

You will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying Report and Minutes of Evidence of a Court of Inquiry ordered by me, in pursuance of their Lordships' directions contained in your letter No. 76M, of the 5th ultimo, to which is prefixed General Lamothe's letter of complaint to Earl Russell.

2d. In this letter I have marked the passages which concern the Naval Service, to which it will be observed I have limited the inquiry, adding my own remarks to the Report.

3d. I have forwarded to Sir Henry Storks that portion of the Report which deals with the "Oracle"—a military and two civil officers being equally concerned in her treatment—in order to facilitate the inquiry, both military and civil, which he has been directed to institute; and I have requested that his Excellency will furnish me with the result of such inquiry as he may order on this portion of the complaints, in order that I may arrive at a just conclusion in regard to them; and which will be forwarded for their Lordships' further information as soon as I receive it. (Enclosure No. 7, received 20 March 1866.)

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Hope*,
Vice Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Translation.—By Mr. *Colin Campbell*, Clerk.

(This translation, though rather literal, is sufficiently good for all practical purposes.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice-Admiral.)

General *Lamothe* to Earl *Russell*.

My Lord, St. Thomas, 28 December 1865.

From my most tender infancy, I have learned it by tradition, and my sympathy for the English people has increased with my age. It is impossible for me to admit that my admiration has reposed upon mere illusions; I could not determine to take one solitary action for cause of conviction.

I have been the victim of excessively arbitrary acts, and in the following manner:

While I resided in the town of Kingston, I engaged my passage in the schooner "Oracle," bound for Inagua; to this effect, that I embarked on the afternoon of the 9th of October.

Jamaica was perfectly tranquil, and no one at that moment suspected there the possibility of the least trouble.

The vessel sailed, and after a passage of six days, bringing her into the passage to windward of the sea of the Antilles, she experienced a north-easter so violent that the principal ropes parted; the stays of the masts had the same fate; the captain was forced to give up arriving.

When at last the wind fell, we were beyond the Island of Navazja. It was decided that we should make the land, to provision and repair the damages caused by the storm. It was in this state of distress that the schooner "Oracle" entered Port Antonio, a village situated on the north of the Island of Jamaica. We were ignorant that there was any trouble in the country, and when the pilot informed us of it, we made objections to entering the port, but he added that there was nothing to fear, that all was tranquil at Port Antonio; that the scene of disorder was at about 60 miles from the village. Re-assured by the pilot, we proceeded to anchor.

While we were there to repair our damages, without having the least communication with the shore, we saw come on board 15 men, armed from head to foot, having at their head one named Ramsay, calling himself Provost Marshal at Port Antonio, who expressed himself thus: "All Haitiens on board must follow me."

A. Without permitting us to dress ourselves, they conducted us between two files of soldiers to the court-house. Captain Luke, whom we found there, had at first decided that we were free to continue our voyage; but a moment after arrived Lieutenant Irvine, of the guard ship "Aboukir," who induced him to arrest us, seeing that, as he said, all the Haitiens resident at Kingston were prisoners. Captain Luke revoked his first decision, and we were, without any other cause, taken to the barrack, where they kept us prisoners, in such a disgusting state that I dare not mention it to your Lordship.

B. We had scarcely reached the barracks when we learned that the said Irvine, accompanied by Ramsay, had taken possession of the "Oracle," as well as of her cargo, and had also seized all the effects of the passengers, and transferred them to a gunboat which he then commanded. Certain articles of my use, which were packed in my trunks, and which I recognized in the possession of Mr. Ramsay, left me not a doubt of the integrity of the Provost Marshal of Port Antonio.

I continued to suffer a detention, without being able to ascertain the cause. When the news arrived at Kingston that I had been arrested at Port Antonio, Mr. S. Laraque, agent of General Geffrard, had a secret intelligence with the papers which he subsidises there, and from this connivance they fabricated an article endeavouring to implicate me in the rebellion, in order to accomplish the taking of my life. This is the true account of the whole affair, of a scheme which your Lordship must have read in the Kingston papers; it has no other foundation. And, very certainly, from the manner in which they sent *en masse* the world* to death, your servant would never have been here to have the honour of addressing you, if of this defamation they had been able to find, not the proof (for that was not necessary), but the slightest probability of my connection with the rebels.

* Everybody.

E. After a week of detention at Port Antonio, they embarked us on board the corvette "Wolverine," which conveyed us to Port Royal, whence we were transferred on board the ship "Aboukir." It is on board the latter vessel that I have had to endure the most unheard-of outrages. On the main deck, between two guns, they exposed me to public derision. Picture to yourself, my Lord, a crew of about 500 men launching offensive epithets and insults at one man alone! After a thousand threats of hanging me, of flogging me, one among them, feigning intoxication, came up to me, saying "Old negro;" he gave me a hard slap in the face. "Am I among civilized men or among savages?" I cried, in excess of indignation. "Why not kill me once for all?"

F. Then Captain Mathew† interfered, who drove away the mob of sailors, prohibiting the repetition of such scenes.

† ? Smith.

I thought that it was to try me that they had brought me from Port Antonio. I had a right to hope at least that they would acquaint me with the reason for which they had interrupted my voyage—the cause, in fine, of my arrest.

G. Nothing of the sort. On the 1st November, the Captain of the "Aboukir" notified me, by order of Governor Eyre, that I could apply to my agents or friends, by writing, to charter a vessel for the purpose of transporting me elsewhere; and that (although I must remain prisoner on board), if I were still in the Island of Jamaica after the 14th day from this notification, I should be hanged. On the next day, November 2d, I was given the order for expulsion of Governor Eyre, giving as a reason a plot against a friendly Government.

Then, my Lord, Governor Eyre confesses by this act, which is only a copy of his proclamation of expulsion against all the Haitiens indiscriminately, that there exists no particular motive whatever for detaining me. This proclamation of expulsion, of which others than myself will feel the extent, has struck from the youth to the paralytic nonagenarian, and is in contradiction to his arguments; although I have myself obeyed, the more willingly that I had already quitted Jamaica without intention of returning, but I fear that Governor Eyre may not have to reproach himself on extreme tenderness. For of this kindness of good neighbourhood, all in serving the resentment of others, can spring unforeseen circumstances, which will demonstrate that in this circumstance, the representative of Her Britannic Majesty was rather inclined to serve a policy quite different from that of his Government.

H. Briefly, in execution of the aforesaid order, a friend took my passage in the Royal Mail steamer.

I. Where are my effects?

I had in vain to beg, I had in vain to pray, to be given back my trunks, to be able to clothe

clothe myself; this was in vain. In a horrible state, almost naked, without a hat, they transferred me, on the 9th November, on board the Royal Mail steamer, which disembarked me here, at St. Thomas. I.

Now, my lord, I believe I have a right to say that, being embarked as a passenger on board a vessel regularly cleared by the Custom House of Kingston, which vessel having sustained damages by sea, only by force put into Port Antonio, to guard against imminent peril, which is an universal right, that I was seized upon the sea by an armed force, the more irresistible that it declared itself acting in the name of Her Majesty the Queen; that this force not only took possession of my person and that of my son, but even appropriated all my effects, consisting of cloth clothing, linen, silver, jewels, papers, books, &c. &c.; this naval and military force, commanded by Messrs. Ramsay and Irvine, at last stripped us! L.

My lord, I am a general officer; I belong to a nation recognised by England; I am known to Governor Eyre; he has knowingly done outrage and violence to my dignity; the same motives that he has alleged for expelling the Haitiens, should have made him observe courtesy towards them, if he were not influenced by other sentiments.

There is no precedent, either in my private life or in my political career, to extend (*elargir*) the rigour and contempt of which I have been the object. I have lived at Jamaica for three years and a-half, solitarily, peaceably, honestly; I can, if necessary, prove it by the notabilities of Kingston, who I am sure have nothing to reproach me for.

It is not all for crime, it is not at all for misdeed, nor by force, that I had gone to reside at Kingston. As minister of the Haitien Government, I had the misfortune not to be able to agree with the Chief upon a political point, which I considered of sufficient importance; I resigned my seat in the Executive, in order not to assume the responsibility of it before my country; this is the origin of the umbrage which they conceived against me, and to avoid its tendencies, I took the course of retiring to the stranger, solely to have peace. I went then to establish myself at Kingston, where I have with gratitude united my voice with that of so many other political victims, who, with good cause, blessed the security of British hospitality.

But I doubt whether the condescension by which Governor Eyre has desired so gratuitously to make me suffer so great infamy, may obtain the unanimous approbation of my compatriots; I doubt still more, my lord, whether the English Government may give its sanction to it.

No, the nation that marches at the head of civilization, the nation whose liberalism is as a beacon to the contemplation of the world, will have, even like the victims, horror at the offence which the Jamaica planters have lately committed against humanity.

Full of this conviction, my lord,

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. H. Lamothe.*

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

General *Lamothe*.—Report of Inquiry.

Sir, H.M.S. "Aboukir," Jamaica, 14 March 1866.

In compliance with your orders of the 10th instant, to institute an inquiry into certain complaints preferred by General Lamothe, of the treatment he received when taken prisoner in the schooner "Oracle," and subsequently on board the "Aboukir," in October and November last, we have the honour to state that we have inquired strictly into the case, and beg to report as fully as we are able, and as nearly as possible, under the several headings, viz.:—

Extracts from General Lamothe's letter, containing the complaints of his ill-treatment.

A. Captain Luke, whom we found there, had at first decided that we were free to continue our voyage, but a moment after arrived Lieutenant Irvine, of the guardship "Aboukir," who induced him to arrest us; seeing that, as he said, all the Haitiens resident at Kingston were prisoners.

Captain Luke revoked his first decision, and we were without any other cause taken to the barrack, where they kept us prisoners in such a disgusting state, that I dare not mention it to your lordship.

Report of Officers ordered to inquire into the same.

A. 1st. By Lieutenant Irvine's letter, it appears the "Oracle" was seized by the Provost Marshal, and at his request a guard from the "Nettle" was placed on board her; but there is no evidence that we have been able to obtain to show that Lieutenant Irvine influenced in any way the arrest of the Haitiens by the military officer in command at Port Antonio. The evidence of Captain Luke and Lieutenant Irvine is not obtainable by us.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—A. Captain Luke being the officer solely responsible for the arrest, it does not appear of any moment who was his adviser. So far as I am aware, Lieutenant Irvine's information was in substance correct.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

General Lamothe's Complaints.

B. We had scarcely reached the barrack, when we learned that the said Irvine, accompanied by Ramsay, had taken possession of the "Oracle," as well as of her cargo; and had also seized all the effects of the passengers, and transferred them to a gun-boat which he then commanded.

C. Certain articles of my use, which were packed in my trunks, and which I recognised in the possession of Mr. Ramsay, left me not a doubt of the integrity of the Provost Marshal of Port Antonio.

Report of Inquiry.

B.—1st. Lieutenant Irvine placed a guard of four men on board the "Oracle," with orders to prevent the powder and arms being landed; and they, by his direction, searched the effects of the crew and passengers for papers, arms, &c., under the superintendence of the Custom House officer. The few arms that were found were transferred to the "Nettle" for custody. The small amount of money that was found was taken charge of by the Custom House officer. The remaining effects were replaced in their respective trunks (the lids of which were not secured), and left on board the schooner.

The crew and passengers had been made prisoners of, and, at all events on one occasion, were permitted to have changes of clothing, which it appears were taken up to them by one of the crew of the schooner and two men of the town, by permission of the Custom House officer.

During the time the guard was on board, four men belonging to the town, as well as the crew, were employed discharging cargo, &c., and these men were left in the schooner when the guard was withdrawn, on account of the "Nettle" leaving for Manchioneal on the afternoon of the 26th October.

It appears by Lieutenant Irvine's letter, that on his return from Manchioneal, on the 27th, he found that the cabin had been ransacked during his absence, but by whom we are not able to obtain any evidence to show.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—B. Lieutenant Irvine was much to blame:

1. In putting a guard on board the vessel without a responsible officer in charge of them. If unable to send such an officer, he should have declined to send a guard.

2. In not being present when the search was made, when he should have been careful to have seen proper inventories made of the papers and other articles taken out, and in having the boxes and trunks properly secured again.

They should not have been broken into, but should have been opened in the presence of their owners, who had the keys, and if necessary for this purpose, they should have been taken to where the prisoners were confined. To leave them in the state described was to tempt plunderers.

On this point I consider Captain Luke, whose prisoners they were, and the Provost Marshal, equally to blame with Lieutenant Irvine.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

C. The schooner was taken alongside the "Nettle" on the evening of the 27th, and remained there until the morning of the 29th, when she was taken charge of by Mr. Cook, midshipman of the "Wolverine," at which time the boxes and portmanteaus in the cabin and hold were in great disorder. It would also appear that on the morning of the 29th, some of the crew of the "Nettle" were drunk, and that some articles of small value were being passed from the schooner to the "Nettle."

From want of the evidence of Lieutenant Irvine, Mr. Banks, gunner, the Provost Marshal, and the Custom House officer, we are unable to arrive at the real state of the interior of the schooner when the "Nettle" left for Manchioneal, and when she returned and resumed charge of her.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—C. When Lieutenant Irvine withdrew his guard, on both occasions, he should have personally inspected the schooner, and satisfied himself as to the state of the property on board.

It is highly probable the plundering took place in his absence, during which time it appears the vessel was under charge of the Custom House officer.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

D.—2nd. Therefore, in the absence of the most material evidence, we are of opinion that the cabin was principally ransacked and cleared out while the schooner was lying alongside the wharf during the time the "Nettle" went to Manchioneal; and that no blame is to be attributed to Lieutenant Irvine for this, as the vessel was then in charge of a Custom House officer; but we consider that blame is to be attached to Lieutenant Irvine for not taking better measures to ensure the safety of the remainder of the property on board of the schooner, after he had resumed charge of her on returning from Manchioneal.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—D. This Custom House officer, having been on board all the time, was in reality the officer responsible for the safety of the property;

perty; but I do not think this circumstance frees the officers concerned from blame, viz., Lieutenant Irvine, Captain Luke, and the Provost Marshal, who should all have kept their eye on what went on on board of her.

Since the foregoing remarks were written, I have received Captain Luke's statement from His Excellency Sir Henry Storks, together with one from Governor Eyre (Enclosure No. 7).

From these it would appear that Captain Luke was solely responsible for the detention of General Lamothe and his party; and it is clear that it was his duty, when he removed them from the vessel, to have ordered all their personal property to be removed with them, and if there was any objection to this, which it is difficult to conceive, to have seen it placed in security.

To the neglect of this duty by Captain Luke, the loss of the property is primarily due.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

General Lamothe's Complaints.

E. After a week of detention at Port Antonio, they embarked us on board the corvette "Wolverine," which conveyed us to Port Royal, whence we were transferred on board the ship "Aboukir."

F. It is on board the latter vessel that I have had to endure the most unheard-of outrages. On the main deck, between two guns, they exposed me to public derision. Picture to yourself, my lord, a crew of about 500 men launching offensive epithets and insults at one man alone!

After a thousand threats of hanging me, of flogging me, one among them, feigning intoxication, came up to me, saying, "Old negro;" he gave me a hard slap in the face. "Am I among civilized men, or among savages," I cried, in excess of indignation, "why not kill me once for all?" Then Captain Mathew * interfered, who drove away the mob of sailors, prohibiting the repetition of such scenes.

I thought that it was to try me that they had brought me from Port Antonio; I had a right to hope at least that they would acquaint me with the reason for which they had interrupted my voyage; the cause, in fine, of my arrest.

Result of Inquiry.

E. General Lamothe and his party were embarked on board the "Wolverine," at Port Antonio, on the morning of the 29th October, and conveyed the same day to Port Royal, where they were transferred to the "Aboukir."

F.—1st. We find that during the time General Lamothe and his party were prisoners on the starboard side of the main deck of the "Aboukir," viz., from the evening of the 29th to the afternoon of the 31st October, they were exposed to offensive epithets and jeers from the men on board the "Aboukir"; these appear to have been mainly from men belonging to Her Majesty's late ship "Bulldog," who were then berthed on board, and who seem in some way to have connected the General with the loss of their ship and clothes.

2d. We consider it was injudicious in Commander Smith to place the Haitien prisoners in a part of the deck where they could be subjected to insult or molestation by the crew, and that he should have been earlier acquainted with what was taking place. We consider that the gunner who was in charge of the main deck, the police of the ship, and the sentries, are to blame for allowing this treatment to continue so long without reporting it.

We find that a seaman of the "Bulldog," name unknown, returning on board from leave, drunk, was the cause of a disturbance on the main deck in the vicinity of the prisoners. Mr. Penfound, the gunner, hearing it, crossed over from the port side, and found General Lamothe in a state of great excitement. He complained that a man had put his hand on his (General Lamothe's) mouth. Mr. Penfound then interfered, reproved the sentry, and took steps to have the man reported; after which Captain Smith had the prisoners removed to a part of the deck where they were free from further molestation.

* ? Smith.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—F. It was the duty of Captain de Horsey, when he ordered the passengers and crew of the "Oracle" to be received on board the "Aboukir," to have given proper descriptions of their station in life, and suitable directions for their custody.

Further, being senior officer, Captain de Horsey, in that capacity, was responsible for the suitable treatment of the prisoners confined on board the vessels under his orders, and if either of these duties had been properly performed, no complaints could have arisen in regard to their treatment in the "Aboukir."

Commander Smith reports to me (Enclosure No. 6), that none such were given, and therefore to that extent he is free from blame.

2nd. However, not having received such directions, it was the duty of Commander Smith to have made himself acquainted, by personal inquiry from the prisoners, with their station in life and the circumstances connected with their detention; and had he done so, he would not have failed to perceive that General Lamothe and his party

were entitled to a screen berth properly provided with furniture, on the main deck on the port side, where they would have been free from all molestation, if he had no cabins to place at their disposal. It appears that the only vacant cabins were in the cockpit. A screen berth, therefore, on the port side of the main deck was in every respect the most comfortable arrangement which could have been made for them. All the annoyance experienced by General Lamothe appears to have arisen from the neglect animadverted on in the previous note.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

General Lamothe's Complaints.

G. Nothing of the sort. On the 1st November, the captain of the "Aboukir" notfied me, by order of Governor Eyre, that I could apply to my agents or friends by writing, to charter a vessel for the purpose of transporting me elsewhere; and that (although I must remain prisoner on board) if I were still in the island of Jamaica after the 14th day from this notification, I should be hanged. On the next day, November 2nd, I was given the order for expulsion — of Governor Eyre—giving as a reason, a plot against a friendly government.

Report of Inquiry.

G. This statement is accurate, with the exception that Captain Smith did not tell General Lamothe he would be hanged if found in Jamaica after the 14th day from the notification of deportment. Captain Smith appears to have simply done his duty in reading the order for deportation to the Haitiens.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—G. Commander Smith is entirely free from blame in making this notification, which was simply his duty.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

H. Briefly, in execution of the aforesaid order, a friend took my passage in the Royal Mail steamer.

H. General Lamothe, while on board the "Aboukir," had free communication with his friends, one of whom, it is presumed, engaged his passage in the mail packet.

I. Where are my effects?
I had in vain to beg, I had in vain to pray, to be given back my trunks, to be able to clothe myself; this was in vain. In a horrible state, almost naked, without a hat, they transferred me, on the 9th November, on board the Royal Mail steamer, which disembarked me here, at St. Thomas.

I. We find that the whole of the effects that General Lamothe and his party brought on board the "Aboukir" were sent with them to the mail steamer; and that the statement made by the general that he was almost naked and without a hat, when he was sent to the mail packet, is totally unfounded.

K. before leaving the "Aboukir," General Lamothe made a complaint to Commander Smith relative to the loss of his effects on board the "Oracle," which Commander Smith assured him should be completely investigated, and accordingly called on Lieutenant Irvine for a written explanation on the subject.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—K. Lieutenant Irvine's explanation here adverted to was forwarded to the commodore, and is given in Enclosure No. 5, together with a report from the commodore on the subject, from which it appears that he took no further steps in the matter, for the reasons assigned in his report.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

Enclosure No. 5.
Enclosure No. 4.

L. Now, my lord, I believe I have a right to say, that being embarked as a passenger on board a vessel regularly cleared by the Custom House of Kingston, which vessel having sustained damages by sea, only by force put into Port Antonio, to guard against imminent peril, which is an universal right, that I was seized upon the sea by an armed force, the more irresistible that it declared itself acting in the name of Her Majesty the Queen; that this force not only took possession of my person and that of my son, but even appropriated all my effects, consisting of cloth clothing, linen, silver, jewels, papers, books, &c. &c.; this naval and military force, commanded by Messrs. Ramsay and Irvine, at last stripped us!

L. The answer to this head of complaint is comprised under the answer to B. We beg, however, to observe that, from all the evidence we have been able to obtain, when the search of the effects of the passengers and crew of the "Oracle," was made by the guard sent from the "Nettle," no jewels or silver, with the exception of a small amount of silver coin, was ever seen.

Remarks of Sir James Hope.—L. This is a subject of regret, as the character of the public service clearly required a thorough investigation of the matter in all its branches, naval, military, and civil, for which purpose he should have communicated with the Governor and General.—(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

Report of Inquiry.

In conclusion, we have to observe that during the insurrection it appears a great number of prisoners were sent to, and removed from, the "Aboukir" in a very hurried and irregular manner. These Haitiens were sent to the "Aboukir" as political prisoners, and it was generally understood that they were deeply concerned in the rebellion, which we consider accounts in a measure for the manner of their reception on board.

The minutes taken at the inquiry, and the enclosures sent with your orders, are forwarded herewith. Minutes sent in original.

We have, &c.

(signed) *Thomas Cochran*, Capt., H.M.S. "Wolverine."
R. Gibson, Capt., H.M.S. "Duncan."
J. Liddell, Commander, H.M.S. "Aurora."

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

MINUTES of a Court of Inquiry held on board Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," on Monday 12 March 1866, and by adjournment on the following day.

PRESENT:

Captain Thomas Cochran, of Her Majestry's ship "Wolverine," President.
Captain Robert Gibson, of Her Majesty's ship "Duncan."
Commander John Liddell, of Her Majesty's ship "Aurora."

Read the order of Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B., Commander in Chief, directing an inquiry to be held into certain complaints made by General J. Lamothe, of the ill-treatment he received when taken a prisoner in the schooner "Oracle," in October last.

Read General Lamothe's letter of complaint, as well as the rest of the correspondence.

Mr. *Barker*, Engineer (late of Her Majesty's ship "Nettle"), called, and Examined by the Court:

STATE anything you know relative to the seizure of the "Oracle"?—Mr. Ramsay seized her; he told me he detained her in consequence of finding powder on board. When we arrived at Port Antonio in the "Nettle," on the 23rd October, at 6.30 p.m., we found the "Oracle" there. The commanding officer went on shore, and on his return on board, said that a vessel had been detained in consequence of having powder on board; and, if I recollect rightly, he then gave orders for a guard to be sent to take charge of the "Oracle." The guard was continuously on board the "Oracle," except from the afternoon of the 26th till the afternoon of the 27th October, until delivered up to the "Wolverine."

Mr. *Davey*, Engineer (late of Her Majesty's ship "Nettle"), called, and Examined:

STATE what you know relative to the seizure of the schooner "Oracle"?—We found the "Oracle" at Port Antonio on our arrival; a guard of marines was sent on board to take charge of the vessel. I think the guard was sent the morning after our arrival. I was on shore, sick, afterwards unable to walk, with a sprained ankle.

James Fenton, Seaman, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," called, and Examined:

WERE you one of the guards sent on board the "Oracle"?—I was; not one of the first guards; two marines, Brooks and Jeffreys, were sent first; also Williams, a seaman.

State what you know about the vessel?—I went on board, and was told by the commanding officer of the "Nettle" to search the ship. I do not recollect the day the "Nettle" arrived at Port Antonio at seven o'clock one evening, and the first guard was sent the next day; I think I went on board on Wednesday. I was ordered to open anything that might be suspected to contain arms; a sort of search had been made by the first guard who were in charge. We went down into the cabin and turned everything over, bag of rice, &c., before we broke anything open. We found a sword, and I think two pistols, also two short air-guns. We broke open the chests of the captain and crew, also the passengers, and examined everything; this was done by order of the Custom House officer, who was present at the time. Everything, money and all, was given to the charge of the Custom House officer. I think the amount of money would be about 30 *s.* The Custom House officer made an inventory of all the effects that he sent on board the gun-boat. I was on board two days, and was not relieved, as the ship "Nettle" was ordered to Manchioneal, and we were sent for about eight in the evening. The crew of the "Oracle" was on board, and took charge; we left the captain and mate on board.

Were any of the "Nettle's" crew, besides the guard, on board?—Not on board the schooner; nobody was allowed to come.

Was the Commander of the "Nettle" on board when you searched the boxes?—No; after giving the orders on board the "Oracle" for the search to be made, he left the vessel, leaving the Custom House officer to superintend.

What was done with the effects that were not sent on board the gun-boat?—They were re-stowed in the boxes.

Were any clothes taken out of the vessel?—Yes; for the passengers they were taken to the fort, by permission of the Custom House officer; the crew were permitted to take their clothes, and the mate also.

Were any of the owners of the boxes present when they were opened?—The mate was present when his chest was opened.

Robert Williams, Ordinary, of Her Majesty's ship "Delight," called, and Examined:

STATES he was on board the "Nettle," at Port Antonio, and was sent on board the "Oracle" as one of the guard. I do not recollect the day of the week when I was sent. A marine was sent first; I think I was sent the same day. The Lieutenant told me to go on board to take charge of the guard, and not to allow the powder to be taken away; also to search the ship to see if there were any firearms; Lieutenant Irvine went with me. The captain and crew were on board when I went. The supercargo came afterwards. The Custom House officer was also on board. The boxes had not been touched, apparently; I assisted in breaking them open to search them, by the directions of Lieutenant Irvine, in the presence of the Custom House officer. Some money was found. I don't know how much; it was silver. I saw no jewelry or plate; we found some arms, which were taken by Lieutenant Irvine. The money was taken by the Custom House officer; the clothes, &c., were restowed in the boxes, and the lids replaced. The crew of the vessel were allowed into the cabin by directions of Lieutenant Irvine. Do not recollect any of the passengers' clothes being sent for. The crew might have taken them without my knowledge. When I left the "Oracle," the boxes in the cabin were lying about in the same manner as when I went on board, except that the lids were not secured. When we left the "Oracle," the captain and crew were on board; I can't say whether the Custom House officer or supercargo were. Lieutenant Irvine came to the "Oracle," and ordered us back to the "Nettle;" I can't say whether he returned with us. During the period I was in charge of the guard, I was sent away from the "Oracle" on two occasions by Lieutenant Irvine for the purpose of flogging some prisoners, but I did not have to do it. I might have been away two hours on each occasion; I never observed any clothes being taken away while I was in charge of the vessel.

Allen Thompson, Ordinary, of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," called, and Examined:

I WENT on board the "Oracle" on Tuesday the 24th October, with a marine as a guard, about 10 o'clock in the forenoon; I found the captain, crew, and a Custom House officer on board; they were landing the cargo. The Custom House officer appeared to have the vessel in charge. The cabin was open and the captain in it. They were taking cargo out of the cabin. The passengers were then on board the schooner; there were four or five. The passengers were taken away the same day by a guard of soldiers, who were in charge of an officer. The soldiers were artillerymen. The guard consisted of about ten. The crew were allowed to go in and out of the ship, and four other men, who were hired to pump her out. I had nothing to do with searching the boxes. My orders, as sentry, were not to allow any ammunition to be landed. The crew of the vessel were detained in custody a day and a night. The captain was detained about two hours, when the "Nettle" went to Manchioneal; Lieutenant Irvine came to the "Oracle" and took the guard back to the "Nettle," leaving the captain and crew of the "Oracle" on board that vessel (the "Oracle").

Was Lieutenant Irvine on board the schooner when you and the marine went there?—No, he came on board after.

Was he on board when the passengers were taken away by the guard?—No.

Did you see Lieutenant Irvine speak to any of the passengers on board the schooner?—No.

How long was he on board?—About an hour.

William Carter, Ordinary, of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," called, and Examined:

I WAS sent from the "Nettle" to the "Oracle"; Thompson and two marines were there before me; my orders, as sentry, were not to allow any powder to be taken out of the vessel. A message was sent from some of the crew of the vessel, who were in prison, to have some clothes sent them. About two suits of clothes were sent for each, it appeared to be for about five persons; I am not sure whether they were for the crew of the vessel or for the passengers; one of the schooner's crew came with two men for the clothes. The clothes were sent for about 10 minutes to 12 o'clock on the first day I was on board the

the "Oracle." When the "Nettle" left for Manchioneal the Custom House officer was on board the schooner, also the four men who were pumping the vessel out; four soldiers were there also. On the "Nettle's" return from Manchioneal, I went on board the schooner and found the soldiers still on board; they landed as soon as we went on board.

James Fenton, re-called:

Did you ever see any soldiers sent to the "Oracle" as a guard?—I did not.
Did you see any the day you left for Manchioneal?—No.

Mr. *Cook*, Midshipman, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," called, and Examined:

States—I was sent on board the "Oracle" to take charge of her on a Sunday morning, and came round in her to Port Royal. The hatches were lifted off, and in the cabin were several empty cases and portmanteaus lying about; some had the locks broken off, and others had been cut open; there was a quantity of straw and other rubbish and dirt lying about the cabin. On looking into the main hold all the casks of the cargo had the appearance of being turned over; three or four planks of the deck of the cabin were also lifted up; several articles of clothing were also lying about the cabin. I saw some white waistcoats and a blue tunic; I saw no sailors' chests in the cabin.

Were your men allowed to go into the cabin?—Yes, to clear it up; the clothes were folded up and put into one of the portmanteaus.

Were any of the "Nettle's" men on board the schooner when you took charge?—Yes, two or three; one was passing some old firewood to the "Nettle," and another some old empty cases for firewood; I objected to their doing it.

Was Mr. Irvine present?—He was on the deck of the gun-boat.

Were the men in the schooner drunk?—No, but some on board the "Nettle."

Mr. *Cole*, Boatswain of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," called, and Examined, stated:

I was sent on board the schooner; I saw a marine sentry walking to and fro; I saw no one else on board the schooner; I was sent to see what state the vessel was in, and to prepare for towing. In the main hold I saw some cases that had been broken open, also some casks with their heads broken in, and the staves broken. I observed some men passing gear from the schooner to the gun-boat, but didn't observe what it was. In the cabin I saw empty portmanteaus and cases, but nothing apparently of value; I picked up a Nautical Almanack on the deck of the schooner; I saw some of the "Nettle's" men drinking wine, or something else, out of a mess kettle, but did not remark whether they were drunk or sober. They asked me to have a drink, which I refused.

Mr. *Worth*, Midshipman, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," called, and Examined, stated:

I took charge of the "Oracle" from Mr. Cook after she arrived at Port Royal. I found the boxes that were in the cabin appeared to have been emptied. There were several empty portmanteaus and cases, also bags of rice and oats; I saw an old coat in the cabin. I remained in charge of her four or five days, and then gave up charge to the authorities.

Mr. *Barker*, re-called:

Did you see anything passed from the "Oracle" to the "Nettle" while she was alongside?—I remember seeing a book and a pistol; I think the book was Webster's Dictionary. I understood they were taken on board the "Nettle" for custody.

When was the schooner brought alongside the "Nettle"?—I think it was on Saturday.

Did you hear any remark as to the condition of the schooner after you returned from Manchioneal?—Yes, I heard a remark passed to the effect that she had been pretty well cleared out while we were away, but I do not know by whom.

Have you any reason to suppose that anything was taken out of the schooner to the "Nettle" while she was alongside?—With the exception of what I have already mentioned, I have not.

Did you notice any of the crew of the "Nettle," who were not sober that morning?—I did not.

Mr. *Burnard*, Master's Assistant, of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," stated:

I went on board the "Nettle" on the morning of Sunday, 29th October; I saw a marine drinking some wine, or something out of a basin, and I heard the man on board the "Nettle" say that they had champagne, sardines, and butter on the lower deck; I also saw two or three of the men worse for drink at the time. I understood that they had got the things out of the schooner; I saw nothing else in the gun-boat that I thought had come out of the schooner, except two or three empty cases; among the men who were drunk on board the "Nettle," was a marine.

James Gallagher, Quartermaster of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," stated:

I WAS on board the "Nettle" at Port Antonio, in October last; went on board the "Oracle" to assist in making her fast alongside; I was ordered to examine some cases, to see if any arms were in them, after she came alongside; another man and myself were searching. The cases did not appear to have been opened. There were a few barrels in the hold, marked "Fish;" the cases contained fish also; there were also some bags of rice I did not graft. Lieutenant Irvine was on deck. The first time I went on board was to make fast the hawser; the second time, to examine the fish. I know of nothing that was taken out of the "Oracle." I saw no appearance of liquor in any man on the day the "Oracle" left; I never saw anything on board the "Nettle" that I thought came out of the schooner.

Did any of the "Nettle's" men go on shore to the "Oracle" after the "Nettle" returned from Manchioneal?—Yes, they left the "Nettle" for the purpose of a guard.

Mr. *Stone*, Gunner, of Her Majesty's ship, "Wolverine," called, and Examined:

WERE you sent on board the "Nettle" at Port Antonio on the morning of the 29th October?—Yes, to obtain receipts for some arms.

Did you see anything in the way of men being drunk, or drinking at the time?—No.

Did you see anything to attract your attention?—No.

Did you hear any conversation between the "Nettle's" men and the boat's crew?—No, I heard nothing.

Did anything attract your attention on the deck of the Gun-boat?—No.

Alexander Young, Leading Stoker of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," called, and Examined.

WERE you on board the "Nettle" at Port Antonio in October last?—Yes.

Did you go on board the schooner "Oracle"?—No.

Have you any reason to believe that anything was taken from the "Oracle" to the "Nettle"?—No, I never saw anything.

Did you observe whether any of the men of the "Nettle" were drunk, or had been drinking, on the day the "Oracle" was taken away by the "Wolverine"?—No, I don't recollect seeing anything of the sort.

Allen Thompson, re-called:

WERE you on board the "Oracle" at all after the "Nettle" returned from Manchioneal?—No; I only went to tow her to the "Nettle."

Edward Miller, Boys' Class, of Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," called, and Examined, stated:

WAS on board the "Nettle" in October; went on board the schooner "Oracle" the day after the "Nettle" arrived; found the captain, crew, and Provost Marshal on board; went on board to take the guard; took Jeffreys, the marine, and Allen Thompson; heard the Provost Marshal say, that the guard were to keep a sharp look-out, and not allow any powder to be landed, but the cargo might be; on one occasion some arms and ammunition were brought back in the boat from the schooner; brought away the guard when the "Nettle" was going to Manchioneal; at that time there were the Custom House officer, and, I think, the Provost Marshal on board the schooner. A guard of soldiers had also been sent to the schooner from the fort. Can't remember the day we returned from Manchioneal. The schooner was brought alongside the "Nettle" afterwards; I think I saw the Provost Marshal on board when we took her off; I think I saw soldiers on board the schooner when we took her off; I think the schooner laid alongside the "Nettle" one night; did not go on board her, or see anybody go, except the sentry. The schooner was brought off to the "Nettle" in the evening, between five and six o'clock. I think we had arrived that day from Manchioneal with troops; I am almost certain the schooner was brought off that day. I think the soldiers who were a guard on board the "Oracle" were white soldiers; they landed before the schooner was cast off.

Robert Williams, Ordinary, re-called:

Can't be certain of the day when the schooner was brought alongside the "Nettle;" is certain she was alongside one night, but it may have been two; cannot recollect who was on board the schooner when the boat went to bring her off. Did not see anybody besides the boat's crew go on to the wharf; they went to cast off the chains. Does not know whether soldiers had charge of her when the "Nettle" returned from Manchioneal. I am nearly certain we took the schooner off the same day we returned from Manchioneal. Recollect seeing the "Wolverine's" boat come along side the morning the "Oracle" was taken away. Had no conversation with the boat's crew, and did not see anybody else conversing with them.

Commander

Commander *Smith*, of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," called, and stated:—

When the Haitien prisoners came on board I had 15 other political prisoners on board, and General Lamothe and his party were placed on the starboard side of the main deck, between two guns. The same night the whole of the "Bulldog's" officers and crew came on board. I think it was two days after that that I heard a number of men jeering General Lamothe; they appeared to be the "Bulldog's," who, apparently, were resenting the loss of the "Bulldog," that they appeared to consider had been caused in some measure by General Lamothe, as he was a Haitien. I immediately put a stop to it, and I afterwards had him and his party removed to the port side of the deck, which is always kept clear; they were placed between two guns there; they had all their things with them, and made a sort of couch with their bedding to sit upon. I have made the most stringent inquiries about the General's statement that he had his face slapped, and I have every reason to believe that it is entirely untrue, but that neither he or his party received any other ill treatment or injury beyond that I have mentioned. With regard to the losses which he said he sustained, everything he brought on board the "Aboukir" he took away with him, but after they had been on board a short time, General Lamothe reported to me that he had sustained severe losses on board the Gun-boat, and, from inquiries I have made, I think there was great want of care on the part of Lieutenant Irvine. A man named Dudley, who was then a seaman in this ship, was found with a coat on belonging to General Lamothe; on enquiry, he said it had been given him by one of the men of the "Wolverine" while he was lent to the ship. The coat was given up to General Lamothe, and he said there were valuable papers in the pocket when he lost it, which were not there then. He said the coat was of no further use to him, and he gave it to Dudley.

With reference to General Lamothe's statement, that I told him if he returned to the Island he would be hanged, I beg to deny it, and to state that I only read the proclamation of deportation to him, and then gave it into his hand, at the same time giving one to each of his companions. The proclamation stated, that if he returned to the island he would be given up to the Haitien authorities.

Lieutenant Irvine brought on board here between 8,000 and 9,000 copper caps, taken from the "Oracle," and asked my permission to allow them to remain here until he could communicate with the Custom-house as to what should be done with them. I gave permission, thinking they would be removed the next day, and I thought no more about it, as Lieutenant Irvine never mentioned the subject to me afterwards, and it is only to-day I have found they are still on board.

Relative to the ill treatment complained of, I can only say that before leaving the ship, General Lamothe thanked me for the attention he had received while on board.

I had no idea who General Lamothe was when he came on board; there was nothing in his appearance to lead me to suppose.

He was placed abaft the smokers on the starboard side at first. The other political prisoners were kept amidships, between the capstan and funnel casing.

The jeering was of a nature which referred to the certainty of the Haitiens getting a damned good thrashing, and the probability of General Lamothe and his party getting hanged. As soon as I heard it I stopped it immediately.

I moved him to the port side of the deck for his own comfort, and that he might not have the chance of being ill treated, also to move him away from the smokers.

I believed, when they came on board, that they were ordinary political prisoners, and did not know that they were Haitiens.

After I found he was General Lamothe, I gave him every possible indulgence, and allowed him to have what he liked. On one occasion he asked to be allowed to have a dozen of ale; he had it; and the ward-room steward went several times to the General's house at Kingston, to get him anything he wished.

After I made known the Governor's proclamation to General Lamothe, he never asked permission to leave the ship to arrange about his passage.

On his complaining to me of the loss of his effects on board the Oracle Gunboat*, I told him I would ensure a strict enquiry being made into the matter, and in the event of any of them being recovered, I would forward them to him if he left me his address.

He asked me to be allowed to get clean clothes, and the ward-room steward got them for him; he made no further complaints of ill treatment whatever; indeed, I always spoke to him every morning on going the rounds at three bells, and asked him whether he had everything he wanted; his general reply was "Yes," and that he had nothing to complain of. I believe I saw him the day he left for the packet; his dress was, if I recollect aright, a black surtout coat; the statement of the General that he was almost naked is entirely false, as he was very respectably dressed.

The crew of the "Oracle," who were also prisoners, were kept separate from General Lamothe and his party, at the mutual wish and request of them all.

General Lamothe and his party, when they were moved over to the port side, had the option of taking any position or room they liked, but they chose to remain together between two guns.

I received no written orders to receive the prisoners; my orders were verbally to receive them and keep them in safe custody.

General Lamothe and his party had full permission to see any of their friends who might desire to come on board.

At 5 p.m. the Court adjourned until 9 a.m. on the 13th, when it re-assembled.

Lieutenant *Anderson*, of Her Majesty's Ship, "Aboukir," called, and examined, stated:

Was senior lieutenant on board at the time General Lamothe and his party were on board; thinks they came through the entry port on the main deck; did not know who they were at the time; General Lamothe was completely and respectably dressed for a black man. They were received as prisoners; I supposed them to be the same as those who were previously received, the only difference being that they were not put in irons; they were placed between the guns on the starboard side, abreast of where the men smoke, in about the same line as the political prisoners, who were amidships. I consider they were treated in all respects the same as the other prisoners. In the course of a day or so they were shifted over to the port side; I don't know for what reason; I never heard any abuse offered to them; I never visited them, but the Commander saw them when going the rounds every forenoon, and I saw them when going the rounds at night. I think they made a complaint once to Captain Smith, but I don't know what about; I never saw any ill treatment offered to them by any body. They were by themselves; there were two sentries over the prisoners, one on each side of the prisoners, amidships; when the ship's company were smoking they must have passed between the sentry and General Lamothe's party when they were on the starboard side. I saw General Lamothe when he left the ship, he was then dressed as well as when he came on board. I am almost certain he had a hat on. I do not consider that I had anything to do with looking after the prisoners, not having had any orders about them. They never made any complaints to me when going the night rounds, or at any other time, of their treatment. I think when they went to the mail packet, they were sent in the cutter.

Dr. *Ryan*, Surgeon of Her Majesty's Ship, "Aboukir," called, and examined, stated:

Was surgeon on board the "Aboukir" when General Lamothe and his party were on board, I visited them professionally every morning; they were first placed on the starboard side, nearly abreast of the other political prisoners. The general was well dressed when he came on board; they were moved to the port side a day or two afterwards; I do not recollect that they made any complaint to me; I don't think they did. On the first day when they were on the starboard side, I heard some of the men jeering at them. The reason I understood for their removal to the port side was to protect them from being insulted by the men while smoking, as the crew were not permitted the port side. I frequently entered freely into conversation with General Lamothe after I knew him to be such. On the first day while the men were jeering at the General, I did hear voices say, that he would be sent to Morant Bay and hanged. The Gunner also told me that one of the "Bulldog's" men had placed his hand in front of the General's face. In my opinion there was ill feeling on the part of the "Bulldog's" people towards the Haitiens.

I saw they had some boxes and were provided with ship's forms to sit on; but I don't think they had a table. They were in good health all the time they were on board, and never required my medical attendance.

The General mentioned to me that he and his party had lost a quantity of their effects that they had in the "Oracle" when they were taken prisoners. The General's statement that he left the ship nearly naked and without a hat could not have been correct, unless he went so by his own choice.

Mr. *Penfound*, Gunner of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," stated:

Was in charge of the main deck when General Lamothe and his party were on board; saw them come on board; Captain Smith sent for me and told me that the crew of the "Oracle" were to be put on the port side of the main deck between two guns, and the Haitien prisoners the starboard side. I went down with them and saw the crew of the schooner placed between two guns abreast of the funnel casing the port side, and the Haitien prisoners I placed between the fourth and fifth guns on the starboard side of main deck. I reported having done so to Captain Smith, and he came and saw them himself. The Haitien prisoners were considered the same as the political prisoners; when I saw them come on board they were completely and respectably dressed; I think they brought one trunk amongst them and bedding for all; the General had a saddle and a velvet dressing-gown. I consider their general treatment was very good; they had their ship's allowance, and whatever they wished in addition they were allowed to purchase. I think the Ship's Corporals used to take them water for washing in the morning. They could not have been placed further aft than they were when on the starboard side. One blue jacket sentry was stationed over the Haitien prisoners on the starboard side, another blue jacket sentry was over the crew of the schooner, the port side, and a third sentry (blue jacket) was over the political prisoners amidships. While the Haitiens were on the starboard side I was walking the port side on one occasion just after dinner, and I heard a noise on the starboard side, and going over to inquire what was the matter, I heard the General say, "What you treat me like that for?" I asked him what was the matter; he told me that a man had put his hand on his mouth; I asked the sentry what business he had to allow any one to interfere with the General. He told me that one of the "Bulldog's" men as he came in over the gangway on returning from leave had insulted the General before he (the sentry) was aware of it. I found out

the

the man that did it, and observed he was the worse for liquor; I sent for the Ship's Corporal of the "Bulldog," and ordered him to report the man the following morning. Some time during that afternoon the General complained to me of the people smoking; I told the General I would endeavour to get him shifted over the other side of the deck. I saw Captain Smith shortly after, and told him of it; he said, "Certainly, shift them by all means, at once;" they were immediately shifted; I think it was the second day I heard he was a General. I state positively that the words the General used were, "That man come and put his hand on my mouth." I am not aware whether the "Bulldog's" man was punished or not; I do not think the sentry was punished for neglect of duty. No further complaints of any sort were made to me by General Lamothe. I never heard any offensive language or threats used to the General or his party. Captain Smith used to see the prisoners when he went round at three bells in the morning. I have seen the Surgeon speak to them daily when he left the sick bay; the Lieutenant going the rounds at half-past nine used to see them. I never heard the General or any of his party make any complaint to these officers. I think the master-at-arms did duty as serjeant of the guard. The General and his son were the only two prisoners who could speak English. At the time I heard the General call out there were about 20 or 30 men close to the guns where the General was; they did not appear to be taking any part in the affair. I consider the disturbance I heard was solely caused by the action of the "Bulldog's" man. I did not report the circumstance to Captain Smith. I did not know the name of the sentry. They had permission to smoke during smoking hours. No other officer was present during the time of the disturbance but myself; I said to the men, as nearly as I can recollect, "What are you all doing here," and threatened the sentry that if he allowed the men to interfere with the prisoners I would report him to the Commander. I have already stated all that I heard in reference to the disturbance; I am almost positive there were never more than 80 men smoking at one time on the starboard side while the General was there.

I saw the General leave the ship for the mail packet; he then had on a black wide-awake hat, coat, waistcoat, and trousers, shoes and stockings; I state that positively. I have heard him ask Captain Smith to be allowed to write to his wife, or when he wanted anything (on one occasion he asked to be allowed to have some beer on board), and when his request was granted he would turn round and express his thanks. After he was removed to the port side he appeared quite satisfied with his treatment, and everybody that I saw seemed to do their utmost to make him comfortable. He was allowed to correspond with his friends, and they were allowed on board to see him. The General's statement of the manner in which he was transferred to the mail steamer is quite false. I am not positive who went in the same boat with the General and his party; one or two invalids, I think. I did not hear him make any inquiries as to his effects before leaving, or at any other time. I am almost certain there was no sentry over them for the last 24 hours.

James Shephard, Master-at-Arms, Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," stated:—

Was Master-at-Arms in October and November last, when General Lamothe and his party were on board. I saw them come on board; General Lamothe was dressed in a light coat, and a wide-awake hat, a baltic shirt, waistcoat, and pair of drab coloured trousers, and boots. As they came over the gangway on to the upper deck, I was told to take charge of them, and to see them down on the main deck, and all their luggage taken down with them; I took one of the Haitiens with me; he pointed out their luggage, which consisted of some bundles and one bed, I am certain of; I also think there was a trunk or two, a saddle, and a superb cloak. They were placed between two guns on the starboard side of the main deck. They were fed on ship's provisions, two-third allowance without spirits. By Captain Smith's orders, I told them they could have any provisions they liked to purchase, and that they could smoke in our smoking hours. A sentry was put over them, a blue jacket; I placed the sentries, and ordered them to take care of the prisoners, not to allow them to escape, that they were not to go to the head without the ship's corporal or myself went with them; to allow no one to interfere with them or annoy them. Upon one or two occasions, while the men were smoking, I have heard some of the "Bulldog's" crew say, "Ah, its through the likes of those —— we've lost ourship and our clothes." I mention an instance where the sentry neglected his duty, viz., I complained once to the sentry that he ought not to allow the spittoon to be so close to the prisoners, neither ought he to allow the men to lean over the ridge-rope abreast of the prisoners who were inside it; this is the only occasion on which I had to find fault with the sentry. The prisoners never complained to me of being annoyed, and the sentries never reported to me that they had complained; I heard they had complained to Mr. Penfound that the men while they were smoking jeered them, and said bad words to them, and Mr. Penfound told me that one of the Haitiens complained of a man putting his fist in his face. I was totally ignorant, personally, of the "Bulldog's" man being drunk, and did not inquire into the circumstances of his putting his fist in the prisoner's face; Mr. Penfound told it me in course of conversation. To the best of my recollection they were removed to the port side on Tuesday; they came on board the previous Sunday evening. The Ship's Corporal brought them fresh water to wash every morning between six and seven o'clock. The Ship's Corporal, or myself, always accompanied them to the head; I first ascertained that Lamothe was called a General on Tuesday, when they were moved to the port side. He was pointed out as General Lamothe by one of the other Haitien prisoners; I never knew him positively to be a General

Officer. The saddle that came on board was an ordinary one, with holsters; it was given to my charge, and I sewed it up in canvas to keep it from cockroaches. On one occasion one of them made a complaint to Captain Smith that previous to coming to this ship he had lost £.30, his masonic jewel and certificate, saying, "I am no rebel; I am a private gentleman." Commander Smith told him that he would see to it, and do all that laid in his power for him; the prisoner appeared quite satisfied with the answer. When they first came on board, one of the Haitiens told me that the General's stick was not handed up out of the boat; I inquired of the Officer of the boat; he replied, "It's all right, master-at-arms; it's all right." The stick was not forthcoming. When they were on the port side one sentry was placed over the crew of the "Oracle" and the Haitiens; a sentry was over the Haitiens until they left the ship; they took away all their effects, and were dressed as usual; I think the General had on a white shirt instead of a baltic. I was told that the Haitiens were to be kept by themselves, and the "Oracle's" crew by themselves; I don't know for what reason; I heard there was a General amongst them; the only distinction between the Haitien prisoners and the other political prisoners, was, that they were placed separate from them. A man named Dudley had a coat in his possession belonging to one of the prisoners. About six or seven one evening I was sent for by the prisoners, and one of them asked me if a man was allowed to wear his clothes, as he had just seen one of the sailors go by with his coat on; I told him "No," and found the man, and returned the coat to the prisoner; he searched the coat, and told me to give the man the coat back again, as it was no good to him now; when last he saw it there were some very valuable papers in one of the pockets; I called the man Dudley to where the prisoner and myself stood, and gave the coat back again to Dudley, telling him, "The General says you might have it; it's no good to him now." I asked Dudley how he got the coat, and he said, "On board the 'Wolverine'." I never saw anyone else with any effects that might have come on board at the same time.

The coat looked like a foreign officer's coat.

Two sons of the prisoner, called the General, came on board to see him on two different occasions, and brought some eatables with them; I don't recollect their having anything else in addition to their ship's allowance. They had a dozen of ale bought for them by the ward-room steward.

The statement of the General as to the condition in which he was sent to the mail packet is perfectly untrue.

Serjeant *Davey*, R.M.L.I., of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," states:—

WAS on board the "Aboukir" in October and November last, when the Haitien prisoners were on board. There was a Marine sentry in charge of the tanks and entry ports.

Does not recollect ever seeing any man of the "Bulldog" coming on board drunk.

Never saw anything unsatisfactory, in reference to the prisoners, going on; never heard any bad language made use of in reference to them. When they first came on board, they were all completely dressed; never heard of any complaints being made by them, or of either of them being insulted by a "Bulldog's" man.

I have spoken to the sentry at the tank not to let the men, when smoking, get so close to the Haitien prisoners, and to keep clear of the ridge-ropes and guns. I spoke to the sentries two or three times about the men being so close to the guns and ridge-rope while the Haitiens were on the starboard side of the deck.

John Brown, Private, R.M.L.I., of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," stated:—

WAS Sentry at the entry port during the time the Haitiens were on board. A man of the "Bulldog" came on board drunk, and I reported him to the Master-at-Arms of the "Bulldog." During the time that elapsed until the Master-at-Arms came up, I detained the drunken man. I am certain that while I was sentry he could not have approached the Haitien prisoners. This took place before eight o'clock in the morning, and was the only time I saw a drunken man come on board.

I never heard any bad language used by anybody towards the Haitien prisoners.

I never saw them molested in any way.

I never heard of any Haitien prisoner being struck.

William MacMahon, Stoker of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," states:—

I WAS stationed as a sentry over the Haitien prisoners. I never saw them molested or insulted in any way. Water was brought them every morning, by the Corporal, to wash.

Mr. *Barnard*, Master's Assistant of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," re-called:—

I WAS in charge of the boat that brought the prisoners on board the "Aboukir," with their luggage. I understood General Lamothe was a Haitien general. When I came on board I told Captain Smith I had brought General Lamothe and some other prisoners. General Lamothe was completely dressed. I can't tell what luggage the General and his party had.

Mr. *Kipling*, Assistant Surgeon of Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," stated:—

I WAS in the boat that took the Haitien prisoners to the packet. The statement of General Lamothe as to the condition in which he was transferred to the packet is entirely incorrect;

incorrect; he was well dressed. No observation as to their treatment, or anything else, was made in my presence. They all appeared well clothed.

Mr. *Barnard*, re-called:—

I was at Port Antonio on the 27th of October, and walked down to the wharf about six o'clock that afternoon. I saw the schooner "Oracle" laying off the wharf at about 11 o'clock. When I went on board the "Wolverine," I am positive the schooner was alongside the "Nettle."

(signed) *Thos. Cochran*,
Captain of Her Majesty's Ship "Wolverine."
R. Gibson,
Captain of Her Majesty's Ship "Duncan."
John Liddell,
Commander of Her Majesty's Ship "Aurora."

Enclosure 3, in No. 4.

Reporting Precautions taken to prevent Embezzlement of any Goods from the Schooner "Oracle."

Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," Jamaica,
Sir, 15 November 1865.

I have the honour to inform you that on taking charge of the schooner "Oracle," I placed a guard on board of her with orders to permit the cargo to be landed as requested by officer of Customs.

I then repaired as soon as possible on board my own ship, and mustered the ship's company, telling them as they might all have some duty to perform on board the "Oracle," I deemed it my duty to read to them Arts. 1 and 3, c. 18, p. 159, Admiralty Instructions, and gave them thoroughly to understand if I heard of anything whatever having been taken out of the "Oracle" by them I should report the first case.

At night time I closed the hatches, and visited the "Oracle" at 2 a.m.

I was obliged to leave the "Oracle" for one night and day, during which time the crew had charge of her, and had every means of disposing of small goods, as there was no limit to the number of coloured people about the wharf.

When I again took charge, the boxes were found thrown upside down, and the clothes about the deck. I sent for boys to fold the clothes up, and, under my own observation, saw everything put as much to rights as possible.

The arms that were taken, as reported to the Senior Officer, have been returned, and I have a receipt for them.

I have, &c.
Commander G. M. Smith, (signed) *John D'Arcy Irvine*,
Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir." Lieutenant.

Enclosure 4, in No. 4.

(No. 19.)

Embezzlement of Stores on board the "Oracle."

Sir, "Aboukir," at Jamaica, 16 March 1866.

In reply to your letter of this day's date, referring to the explanation of Lieutenant Irvine to Commander Smith relative to the loss of clothing on board the "Oracle," the property of General Lamothe, and requesting me to acquaint you with what further steps I took in the matter, I have the honour to state that I called upon Lieutenant Irvine for further explanations, and, in reply, he forwarded me a letter dated 18th November 1865, now attached to the Report of Inquiry. Enclosure, No. 5.

2. Finding that the "Oracle" had only been temporarily in charge of Lieutenant Irvine, during which time he furnished a guard, and that he had acquainted the supercargo that the "Oracle's" cabin had been ransacked when not under the protection of the gunboat "Nettle," and that Lieutenant Irvine could afford me no further information; I pursued the inquiry no further.

I have, &c.
Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G. C. B., (signed) *F. L. McClintock*,
Commander in Chief. Commodore.

Enclosure 5, in No. 4.

Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," Jamaica,
Sir, 18 November 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the whole of the cargo of the "Oracle" was not landed, but a greater portion of it, and by the request of the supercargo, in order to get at the supposed leak. The description of cargo landed was chiefly rice and salt fish, and it was landed by crew and labourers employed by supercargo, and placed in a house engaged by the Collector of Customs.

I was obliged to withdraw my guard as I went to sea at night, at 10 p.m., and I left the "Oracle" in charge of supercargo. On again taking charge, I told the supercargo that it appeared to me that the cabin had been ransacked in my absence, and he replied "My duty called me away, and I don't know what took place in my absence."

I am not aware of any wine being in the hold, and I am sure none of the gunboat's crew were drunk, and especially at 7 a.m., as reported by officer who took charge of "Oracle" (from Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine").

I have, &c.
Commodore Sir F. L. McClintock, Knt., (signed) *Jno. D'A. Irvine*,
Senior Officer. Lieutenant.

Enclosure 6, in No. 4.

Her Majesty's Ship "Aboukir," at Port Royal,
Sir, 16 March 1866.

IN obedience to your directions, I have the honour to report that General Lamothe and the crew of the "Oracle" were received on board the "Aboukir" only by a verbal order from Captain De Horsey, delivered by the Midshipman of the boat which brought them on board.

This order neither acquainted me with their condition in life, nor the reason of their detention, and there was nothing in their appearance which indicated that the former differed in any respect from that of the other political prisoners received on board.

I have, &c.
Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B., (signed) *G. M. Smith*, Commander.
Commander in Chief.

Enclosure 7, in No. 4.

(No. 56.)

Sir, King's House, 19 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, relating to the claim for compensation made by General Lamothe.

I enclose herewith copies of statements made by Captain Luke, 1st West India Regiment, and Mr. Paul Ramsay, Inspector of Police, when called upon for an explanation of the circumstances connected with the arrest of General Lamothe and other Haytiens, and the seizure of the schooner "Oracle."

The custom house officer has been also called upon for an explanation, and on its receipt I shall not fail to transmit a copy of it for your information.

I have, &c.
Vice Admiral (signed) *H. K. Storks*,
Sir J. Hope, G.C.B., &c., &c., &c. Lieutenant General.

P.S.—I beg also to enclose a copy of a memorandum relative to the arrest of General Lamothe, which was forwarded to me by Mr. Eyre.

(signed) *H. K. S.*

Sub-Enclosure 1, in Enclosure 7, in No. 4.

Captain *Luke* to Colonel *Whitmore*.

Sir, Spanish Town, 16 February 1866.

HAVING been called upon by his Excellency the Lieutenant General for a report of the circumstances connected with the seizure of the schooner "Oracle," and the arrest of the five Haytien passengers on board, I have the honour to report, for his Excellency's information, that about the 21st October 1865 the "Oracle" came into Port Antonio. It was reported to me that there were 100 kegs of gunpowder on board; I deemed it my duty, as commanding at Port Antonio, to prevent the schooner putting to sea with the powder on board, as it might fall into rebel hands. Orders were given by me to

to this effect, and at the same time the Haytiens were informed they might go where they wished.

Later, however, on the same day, Kingston papers were shown me, and I gathered from these that the schooner "Oracle" was the subject of some anxiety to the Government, and the Haytiens were suspected of being implicated in the rebellion. Under these circumstances, I considered I should be open to censure if I did not detain them. I accordingly gave orders that they should be brought to the barracks, and communicated with Brigadier General Nelson, then at Morant Bay.

A day or two after this, Lieutenant Irvine, of Her Majesty's ship "Nettle," took the schooner under his charge.

The Haytiens were kept in the barracks for about a week, after which they, together with the schooner and crew, were taken to Port Royal by Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," which came to Port Antonio for the purpose. I would here state I have reason to believe the Government approved of my proceedings.

During the time the Haytiens were under my charge they had no just cause of complaint. I put them into the only place at my disposal, a large barrack room; this they occupied with nine gunners of the Royal Artillery, who acted as guard. I will now give the substance of a report by the bombardier of the guard, which report was made to Lieutenant Nash, R.A., and confirmed by that officer, who was at Port Antonio at the time.

1st. That when the Haytiens were handed over to his charge, he (the bombardier) told them that they would be treated properly, and that if they were in any way ill-used, or had any complaint to make, to come to him, and he would take proper steps in the matter.

2nd. They never made any complaints of any description to him; on the contrary, several of them, including Lamothe's son, told him that the men behaved most kindly to them.

3rd. They had the same food as the men, and took their meals with them. The men cooked for them, and neither in this particular nor in any other were they asked to work.

4th. They had their own bedding (what they chose to ask for) from the "Oracle," and slept in the same room as the men.

5th. They were allowed to walk about, and do just as they pleased, so long as they did not go out of sight.

Lieutenant Nash states that he frequently visited the barrack room and never heard a complaint, and never saw any signs of improper conduct on the part of his men toward the Haytiens.

With regard to the complaint of General Lamothe, that some of his property was taken, I can only say I know nothing of the matter, nor am I able to obtain any information on this point.

I have, &c.

Colonel Whitmore, Military Secretary, Head Quarters. (signed) *W. F. Luke*, Captain, 1st West India Regiment.

Sub-Enclosure 2, in Enclosure 7, in No. 4.

(No. 1.)

Inspector *Ramsay* to the Honourable *Edward Jordan*, C.B.

Sir, Spanish Town, 25 January 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 34, accompanying General La Mothe's letters relating to certain personal effects, which he states were taken at Port Antonio under my authority.

In reply, I beg to state for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that at the request of the Haytiens and crew of the schooner "Oracle," permission was given them to remove their bedding, and some boxes of clothing, these were taken to them by the Captain of the schooner; there was also a saddle and ermine robe which, having been found laying about the deck of the cabin, I sent up to the commanding officers for safe keeping; and in my presence these two articles were handed to the Haytiens when embarking on board of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine"; nothing else was removed from the schooner "Oracle" whilst under my charge.

I have, &c.

The Honourable Edward Jordan, C.B., Gov. Sec. Office. (signed) *P. H. Ramsay*, Inspector.

Sub-Enclosure 3, in Enclosure 7, in No. 4.

EXTRACT from a MEMORANDUM furnished to Sir *H. Storks* by Mr. *Eyre*, dated 12 February 1866.

"WITH regard to the complaint made by General Lamothe of ill-treatment and of the detention of his property, I beg to state that the 'Oracle,' with General Lamothe, other Haytiens,

Haytiens, and a cargo of gunpowder on board, was seized at Port Antonio on the morning of the 24th October, by the Provost Marshal, Mr. Paul Ramsay, acting under the orders of Captain Luke, then in command of the district which was under martial law.

"As soon as I learnt the circumstances, I requested the senior naval officer to cause the 'Oracle' and her passengers to be brought to Port Royal (a district also under martial law). This was done by Captain De Horsey himself in the 'Wolverine.' The prisoners were then transferred to Her Majesty's ship 'Aboukir' until a decision had been come to with reference to them, and which was duly communicated to Her Majesty's Government.

"The 'Oracle' was subsequently placed for a time in charge of the Customs authorities, but the Haytien prisoners remained in charge of the naval authorities."

* * * * * * *

"Some inquiries were formerly made at General Lamothe's instance with regard to his personal property, alleged to have been made away with, but I have not the papers by me to refer to, and do not remember exactly the result. I am not quite sure, but I think General Lamothe's application was deferred to a very late period instead of being made as it ought to have been to the authorities immediately on the occurrence of the circumstances of which he complained, and when there would have been no difficulty in tracing whether they were well founded or not, and in rectifying any abuse if it existed."

— No. 5. —

(Four Enclosures.)

Captain *De Horsey* to Vice-Admiral Sir *James Hope*.

Relative to the Presentation of a Testimonial.

Her Majesty's Ship "Aurora,"
Sir, Port Royal, 23 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of two letters I have received from the Secretary of the Executive Committee at Jamaica, together with an extract from the Votes of the House of Assembly of 21st December 1865, by which it appears that a sum of 100 *l.* has been voted for the purchase of a testimonial to be presented to me.

I have also the honour to forward a copy of my answer to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

I beg you will be pleased to move their Lordships to sanction my accepting the above-mentioned testimonial.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. M. De Horsey*, Captain.

Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.,
Commander in Chief,
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 137.)

"Duncan," at Jamaica, 23 March 1866.

SUBMITTED for the favourable consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

(signed) *J. Hope*, Vice Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

(No. 974.)

Executive Committee Office,
Sir, 10 February 1866.

I BEG leave to inform you that the warrant of his Excellency the Governor, dated this day, No. 717, has been sent to the Receiver General for payment of 100 *l.*, as voted by the Legislature for procuring a suitable testimonial for the efficient and valuable services rendered by you during the recent rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I am, &c.
Captain De Horsey, R.N., (signed) *W. R. Meyers*,
Her Majesty's Ship "Aurora," Port Royal. Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

(No. 512.)

Jamaica, Executive Committee Office,
Sir, 15 March 1866.

I AM directed to forward to you the enclosed copy, extract from the Votes of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, granting the sum of 100 *l.* for the purpose of procuring a suitable testimonial to be presented to you for the valuable and efficient services rendered by you during the recent rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I have already had the pleasure of informing you that this sum would be paid on application at the Public Treasury.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. R. Meyers,*
Secretary.

Captain A. F. De Horsey, R.N.,
Her Majesty's Ship "Aurora."

By *J. Mark Glachan,*
Chief Clerk.

Enclosure 3, in No. 5.

EXTRACT from Votes of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, of 21 December 1865.

RESOLVED,—That an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to sanction a sum of 100 *l.*, for the purpose of purchasing a suitable testimonial to be presented to Captain Algernon Frederick Rous de Horsey, R.N., late of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine", for the valuable and efficient services rendered by him to the colony in the recent rebellion in the eastern part of the island.

(True extract.)
(signed) *W. R. Meyers,*
Secretary, Executive Committee, Jamaica,
By *J. Mark Glachan,*
Chief Clerk, Executive Committee.

Enclosure 4, in No. 5.

Her Majesty's Ship "Aurora,"
Sir, Port Royal, 22 March 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, forwarding me an extract from the Votes of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, granting the sum of 100 *l.* for the purpose of procuring a testimonial to be presented to me for services rendered during the recent rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I also beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10th February 1866, informing me that the warrant of his Excellency the Governor has been sent to the Receiver General for payment of 100 *l.* accordingly.

I have the honour to request you will be pleased to express to his Excellency the Governor, and to the Honourable House of Assembly of Jamaica, the satisfaction I feel that my services on the occasion referred to have met with their approbation, and that I shall have the honour gratefully to accept the testimonial voted by the House of Assembly, as soon as I obtain, through my Commander in Chief, the requisite sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. F. R. De Horsey,* Captain.

The Honourable W. R. Meyers,
Secretary of the Executive Committee, Jamaica.

— No. 6. —

(No. 222.)

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope.*

Sir, Admiralty, 19 April 1866.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 17th March (No. 114), with its Enclosures, on the subject of the inquiry made into the complaint of the Haitian General, Lamothe, of the treatment he received from certain officers and men of the Royal Navy, and others, on the occasion of his deportation from Jamaica.

My Lords concur in the view taken by you of the duties of Captain De Horsey and the other officers in the report of the Court of Inquiry.

Making every allowance for the peculiar circumstances of the case, my Lords consider it was the duty of those officers to have ascertained what was due to the position of the prisoners committed to their charge, and to have taken special care that their property was not lost or made away with.

I am, &c.

Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B. (signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 307.)

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope.*

Sir, Admiralty, 25 May 1866.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that, during the recent disturbances in Jamaica, it became expedient to land officers and men from Her Majesty's ships to assist in suppressing the same.

The instructions issued for their guidance have been submitted to the Law Officers of the Admiralty, and, having been revised, have been printed, and I now enclose a copy of them for your information, and their Lordships desire that you will, as far as local circumstances admit, be guided by them in the event of it at any future time being necessary to land parties for the suppression of any disturbances, or otherwise, in any British colony or settlement within the limits of your command.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

Vice Admiral Sir J. Hope, G.C.B., Halifax.

Enclosure in No. 7.

MEMORANDUM relative to Parties landed from Her Majesty's Ships for the Suppression of Disturbances, or otherwise, in British Colonies and Settlements.

1st. THE following supernumeraries are to be landed in addition to the numbers given in the "Gunnery Instructions, Part No. 2."

Assistant surgeon	1	
Sick-berth attendant	1	
Armourer or armourer's crew	1	
Bearers, with stretcher	2	Per Company of 50 men.
To carry spare small arm ammunition at the rate of 30 rounds per man landed	4	

Supernumeraries for the Marines are to be landed in the same proportion.

2nd. When the party is quartered ashore permanently, the following are to be landed in addition to those above shown:—

Assistant paymaster	1
Ship's steward's assistant or boy	1
For duty as cook	1

and such further addition may be made as shall on experience be found requisite for the discipline and efficiency of the party.

3rd. When quartered permanently ashore, the men are to take their hammocks, bags, and mess traps with them; their quarters are to be provided with such things as are requisite for their health, cleanliness, and comfort; and any articles absolutely necessary for the purpose may be purchased in the event of there being no civil or military authority from whom they can be procured.

An account is to be kept by the Assistant Paymaster of all such purchases, in order to the recovery of the purchase-money from the Colony, and on turning over, the quarter's receipts are to be taken for all articles so purchased from the authority to whom the quarters are delivered.

The party is also in this case to be victualled from the ship by the Paymaster, by whom all purchases are to be effected under the sanction of the senior officer of the party.

4th. Should

4th. Should a party be ordered to march into the interior, the Commanding Officer is to apply to the senior military officer on the spot, to direct the Commissariat Officer in charge of the district to ration it.

Should this be impracticable, the rationing of the party is to be conducted by the Assistant Paymaster, under direction of the officer in command, care being taken that the quantities issued are in strict accordance with the scale of victualling of the service, and that the prices charged are reasonable.

5th. An account is to be kept of all purchases in the form annexed; proper receipts are to be taken for all payments, and all bills are to be noted to be presented on board the ship for payment within seven days, and are to be settled before the ship leaves the anchorage.

All accounts, vouchers, &c., are to be in triplicate, two to be forwarded to me, and the third to be retained for reference on board the ship.

If the party is required to march into the interior, the Commanding Officer is to require the civil authorities to supply it with sufficient carriage to convey—

I. The spare ammunition, stretchers, and surgeon's equipment:

II. The clothing, of which every man is to have one complete change, besides his blanket, one suit to be blue:

III. Such provisions as are requisite:

IV. Spare carriage for sick.

Care is to be taken that the party is invariably housed at night, and that the men are not allowed to sleep out in the dew.

A supply of quinine is to be taken for issue in the morning; and the party is invariably to breakfast before it marches.

Instructions for the Guidance of Officers and Party when the Ordinary Law prevails.

7th. If called upon to act for the suppression of riots, or other disturbances when the Ordinary Law prevails, the following precautions are to be strictly observed:—

I. The party is to be employed only on the requisition of the Civil Authority:

II. The party is not to act without the presence of the Civil Authority, except for purposes of self-defence, or the prevention of actual violence to the persons or property of Her Majesty's subjects:

III. The party is to fire only by order of the officer in command:

IV. Notice is invariably to be given that the fire will be effectual:

V. The party is to be divided into four sections, of which two are always to keep their arms loaded:

VI. Care is to be taken, as far as may be possible, that innocent persons do not suffer by the direction of the fire:

VII. In case of riot the mob is never to be allowed to close within 50 yards of the party, and if a charge is required it is to be made only by half the party, the other half being moved up in reserve:

VIII. If it is requisite to take up a position for defence, care is to be taken not to place the party in any building which can be fired, or in any position which can be overlooked, and proper precautions are to be taken on the march to prevent surprise:

IX. The senior officer, if not present, is to be kept fully informed of the proceedings of the party, and of all circumstances necessary for his knowledge, and he is to transmit all important information to the Commander in Chief.

8th. In regard to command, Art. 2, page 45, of the Admiralty Instructions is to be adhered to, observing, however, that when the public service renders such a course advisable, the naval and military forces may be placed under one command—naval or military, as most expedient.

Instructions to the Commanding Officer of a Party Landed when Martial Law has been Proclaimed.

9th. If Martial Law should be proclaimed in any district you are then to follow the directions of the officer appointed to the military command of the district.

10th The arbitrary will of such officer in such case supersedes the Ordinary Law for the time being, in the same manner and degree as it would if the district placed under Martial Law were an enemy's country.

11th. You are to require directions, in writing, from the officer in military command of the district under Martial Law as to your conduct in all matters of importance, especially in regard to the treatment of prisoners taken by you, whether they be taken in the actual commission of violence against the persons or property of Her Majesty's subjects, or under other circumstances.

12th. It is competent for the officer in military command of the district under Martial Law to order prisoners to be brought to trial in a summary manner before a Council, to be named as he may direct.

13th. If you are to preside over any such Council, usually termed a Court Martial, although not necessarily constituted under the provisions of the Mutiny Act, you are to request instructions, in writing, from the officer in military command of the district, and you are not to carry into execution any sentence of such Council, whether of death or otherwise, without being empowered so to do, in writing, by such officer.

14th. You will take minutes, in writing, if employed on any such Council, and you will require such of your officers, as may be so employed, to take minutes, in writing, of all the proceedings and evidence, to be communicated to your Commander in Chief for his information.

15th. You will take care, if so employed, and you will direct your officers when so employed, to apply for the assistance, if possible, of a legal adviser.

16th. In case it shall not be practicable to obtain directions, in writing, from the officer in military command of the district, you will endeavour to obtain directions in such mode as will admit of no subsequent doubt as to their tenor, and shall commit them as soon as possible, if practicable, to writing.

17th. Under no circumstances are houses or property to be destroyed, except under the exigencies of military operations or of self-defence, or under an order from the officer in military command of the district under Martial Law.

18th. The officer in command of a party is to keep a journal, detailing all his proceedings, a copy of which is to be forwarded for the information of the Commander in Chief.

19th. In conclusion, you will observe that these instructions are framed for your guidance in the absence of specific directions from the officer in military command of the district, and you are in all matters relating to operations on shore to follow his directions.

20th. If any directions given by the said military officer should conflict with any of these instructions, you are nevertheless to act in accordance with his directions, first bringing to his notice, if possible, these instructions. You are carefully to weigh the comparative importance of any conflicting instructions you may receive, remembering that you will still be responsible to your naval superior for the execution of any orders you may receive from him.

— No. 8. —

(No. 442.)

The Secretary of the Admiralty to Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope*.

Sir, Admiralty, 6 July 1866.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that whilst the inquiry into the circumstances connected with the disturbances in Jamaica in October last was in progress, they abstained from expressing any opinion on the conduct of the officers brought to their notice in your Despatches of the 22nd, 24th, 26th November, and 8th December 1865, numbered 399, 411, 413, and 434.

My Lords have now received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies the Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry, and a copy of the Despatch addressed by Mr. Cardwell to Lieutenant General Sir Henry Storks, conveying the decision of Her Majesty's Government on the various matters to which the inquiry has been directed, and having taken the same into their consideration, my Lords expressed to Mr. Cardwell their general views of the proceedings, in a letter dated the 5th instant.

Copies of these documents are herewith enclosed for your information.

Their Lordships now desire to express to you their opinion on the conduct of the individual officers mentioned in the various Despatches.

My Lords have already (in my letter, No. 524, written on the 17th November last, on the receipt of Captain De Horsey's first letter of the 25th October) expressed their approbation of the energy and ability displayed by that officer, and

and by the officers and men under his command; and their Lordships have had much satisfaction in receiving from Governor Eyre, Brigadier Nelson, and the Legislative Council of Jamaica further testimony to the good services rendered by the naval forces in assisting to re-establish peace and security in the disturbed districts, which testimony has been duly recorded.

Captain De Horsey, by his excellent arrangements by the rapid movements of the "Wolverine" and the Gun Boats under his orders, effected through the strenuous exertions of his first lieutenant (now Commander Annesley), and the officers and men under him, and by landing parties of seamen, gave the most valuable assistance to the Governor and military officers in their measures for restoring order.

Lieutenants Brand and Oxley are deserving of the highest praise for the zealous and able manner in which they acted in command of their Gun Boats and of their parties when landed; and my Lords desire particularly to notice the very great energy and ability shown by Lieutenant Oxley in overcoming the obstacles opposed to him in his arduous marches through a difficult country; and they further desire to express to First Lieutenant O'Connor, R.M.A., and to Mr. Terry, assistant surgeon, and the officers and men comprising their party, their approbation of the excellent spirit displayed during these trying operations.

My Lords, having thus expressed their opinion of the military measures adopted, now turn to the proceedings in which naval officers took part in punishing the disturbers of the public peace, and they regret that they are unable to view those proceedings with the same satisfaction.

My Lords are fully sensible of the very novel and difficult position in which Lieutenants Brand and Oxley were placed, when suddenly called upon to enforce martial law in the proclaimed district without any instructions, and without the assistance of persons acquainted with the forms or proceedings of courts of justice.

Lieutenant Brand in the discharge of his duty, as president of the courts martial at Morant Bay, appears to have been actuated by an earnest desire to satisfy himself of the truth or falsehood of the charges brought against the prisoners; but my Lords regret that he should have been satisfied with evidence that, in some cases, would not have been admitted before any ordinary tribunal, and in others would have been thought insufficient. The responsibility of carrying into execution the sentences recommended by the Courts does not rest with him, since it appears that the whole proceedings were in every case submitted for the consideration of the superior military authority, by whom the orders for carrying the sentences into effect were given.

With regard to the proceedings of Lieutenant Oxley, you have already acquainted that officer with your opinion upon them, and have pointed out the mistakes he committed, and my Lords have only to express their entire concurrence in the views you have expressed.

My Lords desire that you will convey to the officers alluded to in your Despatches this expression of their opinions, and their Lordships trust that the instructions which have been drawn up for the guidance of officers in any similar case that may hereafter occur, and which have been furnished to the officers in command of stations where there are British Colonies, will prevent a recurrence of the errors which their Lordships have now pointed out.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

Vice Admiral Sir James Hope, G.C.B.

Enclosure in No. 8.

Sir, Admiralty, 5 July 1866.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 18th June last, forwarding a copy of the Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the circumstances connected with the recent disturbances in Jamaica, together with a copy of a Despatch in which Mr. Secretary Cardwell has conveyed to the Governor of the Island the decision of Her Majesty's Government on the various matters to which the inquiry has been directed.

My Lords have given the most careful consideration to these documents, especially in so far as they relate to the proceedings of naval officers concerned in the suppression of the rebellion.

They consider the military measures adopted by the naval officers at the outbreak of the rebellion deserving of their commendation and approval.

They have hitherto refrained from conveying the expression of their satisfaction to the officers engaged in the operations, but now that the Report of the Commission is terminated, they propose to direct Sir James Hope to convey to these officers the approval of the Board.

A copy of the Despatch, before being sent to Sir James Hope, will be communicated to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

With regard to the proceedings of the naval officers detached from their ships, in command of seamen and marines for duty on shore, my Lords desire to make the following remarks:

These officers were necessarily young and inexperienced in the conduct of such operations; no definite and detailed instructions were given them for their guidance, and their minds were necessarily acted upon by the alarm and excitement which everywhere prevailed around them.

In the majority of cases in which punishments were awarded, and sentences carried out under the orders of naval officers during the prevalence of martial law, the proceedings of the courts martial over which they presided, or of which they were members, were submitted for confirmation and approval to superior military authority.

This was notably the case in the trial of George William Gordon, which was presided over by a naval officer; the proceedings, and sentence, and its execution received the confirmation and approval of the Major General and the Governor of the Island.

With regard to other acts committed by naval officers, under the authority of military law, when left as they were to the exercise of their own judgment, my Lords will not fail to express their reprehension of any acts of cruelty or needless severity.

Looking to the very difficult position in which these young officers were placed, away from the superior officers to whom they were accustomed to look for instruction, my Lords do not deem it necessary to order any further steps to be taken.

Since the occurence of these events my Lords have caused to be prepared, by the advice of the proper Law Officers, regulations for the guidance and instruction of officers when employed on shore in aid of the military and naval services.

These regulations, of which a copy is herewith enclosed, have been furnished to naval Commanders in Chief, with directions that they may be strictly attended to, should occasion arise; and my Lords trust that they will prevent the commission in future of irregularities and excesses in the performance of any similar operations which Her Majesty's naval officers may be called upon to perform.

I am, &c.
(signed) *W. G. Romaine.*

Sir F. Rogers, Bart., &c. &c.,
Colonial Office.

— No. 9. —

(No. 340.)

Vice Admiral Sir *James Hope* to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Conduct of Officers Employed in Suppressing the late Insurrection, Jamaica.

Sir, "Duncan," at Halifax, 18 July 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 442—M, of the 6th instant, conveying to me their Lordships' decision on the conduct of the officers employed in suppressing the late insurrection at Jamaica; and you will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the directions contained therein will be duly carried out.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Hope,*
Vice Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.

JAMAICA.

COPY or EXTRACTS of CORRESPONDENCE between the Board of Admiralty and Admiral *Hope* on the CONDUCT of NAVAL OFFICERS in the recent deplorable OCCURRENCES in *Jamaica*.

(*Mr. Charles Gilpin.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
10 *August* 1866.

504.

Under 4 oz.

COPY OF A DESPATCH

FROM

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.,

TO

LIEUT-GEN. SIR H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,

CAPTAIN-GENERAL AND GOVERNOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE ISLAND OF JAMAICA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
18 *June* 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1866.

[*Price* 1*d.*]

COPY OF A DESPATCH

FROM

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.,

TO

LIEUT.-GEN. SIR H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.

(No. 173.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 18, 1866.

THE Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the late disturbances in Jamaica and the measures adopted in the course of their suppression, of which Commission you were the President, has engaged the serious attention of Her Majesty's Government. In considering the Report they have had regard to the voluminous evidence, oral and documentary, upon which it has been founded, including the statements of Governor Eyre, and of the members of the Executive Committee of Jamaica, and other persons engaged in the repression of the insurrection, who were examined before you.

They desire, in the first place, to express their sense of the laborious and dispassionate manner in which you and your colleagues have conducted the inquiry; of the readiness which all parties, and especially Mr. Eyre, those who acted under him, and the late Legislature of Jamaica, have evinced to assist you in its prosecution; and, finally, of the generally tranquil and contented disposition of the people, who appear to have received you with confidence as commissioned by your Sovereign to conduct a full, searching, and impartial investigation.

In the conclusions at which you have arrived, Her Majesty's Government generally concur. Though the original design for the overthrow of constituted authority was confined to a small portion of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, yet there can now be no doubt that the disturbances there had their origin in a planned resistance to that authority. It is further evident, looking to the singular rapidity with which disorder spread over an extensive tract of country, and to the state of excitement prevailing in other parts of the Island, that the ultimate defeat of the insurgents would have been attended with a still more fearful loss of life and property had they been permitted to obtain a more than momentary success. Under these circumstances Governor Eyre fully deserves all the commendation which you have bestowed upon the skill, promptitude, and vigour which he manifested during the early stages of the insurrection, to the exercise of which qualities on his part you justly attribute in a great degree its speedy termination.

As regards the proclamation of martial law under the Island Act of 1844, Her Majesty's Government agree with you that the Council of War had good reason for the advice which they gave, and the Governor was well justified in acting upon that advice. Her Majesty's Government agree in your conclusion that the military and naval operations were prompt and judicious, and considering the large share personally taken by Governor Eyre in the direction of those operations, they attribute to him a large share also of the credit which is due for their success. The Addresses of the Legislative Council, of the House of Assembly, of the various parishes of the Island, and of others, testify the sense generally entertained by the white and coloured inhabitants of their obligation to Governor Eyre for the promptitude and vigour of those measures.

The opinion you have formed as to the causes which led to the determination to resist lawful authority will be the subject of future consideration by Her Majesty's Government, in conjunction with the administrators of the new Government about to be established in Jamaica.

It remains, at present, to consider the conclusions at which you have arrived with respect to the continuance of martial law in its full force to the extreme limit of its statutory operation, and to the excessive nature of the punishments inflicted.

In reviewing this painful portion of the case, the greatest consideration is due to a Governor placed in the circumstances in which Governor Eyre was placed. The suddenness of the insurrection; the uncertainty of its possible extent; its avowed character as a contest of colour; the atrocities committed at its first outbreak; the great disparity in numbers between the white and the black populations; the real dangers and the vague alarms by which he was on every side surrounded; the inadequacy of the force at his command to secure superiority in every district; the exaggerated statements which reached him continually from distant parts of the Island; the vicinity of Hayti, and the fact that a civil war was at the time going on in that country;—all these circumstances tended to impress his mind with a conviction that the worst consequences were to be apprehended from the slightest appearance of indecision. Nor must it be forgotten that he resisted the proposal urgently made to him by the Custos and the Magistrates to proclaim Kingston, that he refused to accede to the suggestion of Colonel Whitfield to proclaim the parishes of Trelawney, St. James', Hanover, and Westmoreland, or to that of Major-General O'Connor, who thought that from the first the whole Island ought to have been placed under martial law; and that in respect both to the assistance offered by the Governor of Cuba, and to the summoning of British troops from Halifax, Nova Scotia, he showed himself superior to feelings of alarm expressed and entertained by those around him.

That I may do full justice to the reasons which induced him to consider desirable the continuance of martial law, I will transcribe them in his own words.

In answer to your question, No. 46,634, he says:—

"I now give the reasons which induced me to think that martial law should be continued. They are very short:—

"1st. In order to deal summarily with the cases excepted from the operation of the amnesty, many of the parties being as guilty as those tried by Courts-martial previous to the amnesty, and there being no valid reason why they should not be dealt with in the same manner.

"2ndly. To preserve peace and good order in the districts where the rebellion had existed, and to afford time to re-organize the civil institutions. The Custos, the Magistrates, the Clergy, and other principal inhabitants, had been killed, wounded, or driven away. The inspector of police had been killed, and the force become disorganized and demoralized. The court-house itself was burnt to the ground. It was impossible to re-establish civil institutions and relations at such a juncture, or without a sufficient time being allowed for reconstruction, and for the return of magistrates, clergy, and other inhabitants who had been compelled to fly during the rebellion. I think that is one very important reason why it was impossible to have suspended martial law."

And in answer to your next question, 46,635,—"What, in your opinion, would have "been the evils that would have arisen from taking that particular course on the 30th "of October?" he proceeds,—

"3rdly. It was important that for some short time longer at least the Government should continue martial law, to operate as an example and a warning *in terrorem* over the disaffected of other districts without the necessity of imposing it in those districts.

"4thly. The indication which the continuance of martial law in the county of Surrey for some days after the amnesty gave of the determination of the Government to deal promptly and decisively with persons guilty of rebellion, or the concomitant crimes of murder and arson, was the most efficacious step it could take to overawe the evil-disposed in other parts of the Colony, and thereby prevent any rising amongst the negro population of the districts where disaffection and seditious tendencies were known to exist. Those were the four principal reasons which operated with the Government at the time."

On the other hand, however, it must be borne in mind that martial law, and the execution of capital sentences under martial law, continued for the full period of a month authorized by the Statute, although after the few first days of the insurrection no serious outrages were committed by the insurgents, nor was any resistance offered to the troops. As early as the 27th October, Governor Eyre wrote to me that on the 20th he had left Morant Bay, satisfied that the rebellion was got under; and, on the 30th, a fortnight before the actual expiration of martial law, it was formally stated in the Proclamation of Amnesty, that the wicked rebellion lately existing in certain parts of the County of Surrey had been subdued; that the chief instigators thereof and actors therein had been visited with the punishment due to their heinous offences; and that the Governor was certified that the inhabitants of the districts lately in rebellion were desirous to return to their allegiance. You have justly observed how much easier it is to decide such questions after than before the event, and that sometimes the success of the measures adopted for the prevention of an evil deprives the authors of those measures of the evidence they would otherwise have had of their necessity. Yet, upon

a full review of all the circumstances of the case, Her Majesty's Government cannot but agree with the conclusion of your Report, "that by the continuance of martial law in its full force to the extreme limit of its statutory operation, the people were deprived for longer than the necessary period of the great constitutional privileges by which the security of life and property is provided for."

They also agree with you that, if not from the date of the apprehension and execution of Bogle, at least from the time at which the reinforcements from Nassau and Barbados had arrived and the amnesty was proclaimed, "there could have been no necessity for that promptitude in the execution of the law which almost precluded a calm inquiry into each man's guilt or innocence;" and that "directions might and ought to have been given that courts-martial should discontinue their sittings. The prisoners in custody might then well have been handed over for trial by the ordinary tribunals."

It may, indeed, be admitted that, as you have said, the Government would have incurred a serious responsibility, if, with the information before them, they had thrown away the advantage of the terror which the very name of martial law was calculated to inspire; but it appears from the summary of the sentences by courts-martial appended to your Report that the numbers executed must have included many who were neither ring-leaders of the insurrection nor participators in actual murder or outrage of the like atrocity; while for the wholesale flogging and burning of houses, the circumstances of the case do not appear to furnish any justification. Future good government is not the object of martial law. Example and punishment are not its objects: its severities can only be justified when, and so far as, they are absolutely necessary for the immediate re-establishment of the public safety. Her Majesty's Government have learnt, rather with regret than with surprise, as the result of your careful examination of the proceedings, that while in the great majority of the cases the evidence seems to have been unobjectionable in character, and quite sufficient to justify the finding of the Court, and the account given by the more trustworthy witnesses as to the manner and deportment of the members of the courts was decidedly favourable, yet you have been compelled also to call attention to some cases in which either the finding or the sentence was not justified by any evidence appearing on the face of the proceedings; and to other cases, in which the evidence allowed to be given was of a most objectionable description; and again to others, in which the sentences seem to have been wholly disproportioned to the offences charged.

Her Majesty's Government are compelled to express their concurrence in your last conclusions, viz.:—

"That the punishments inflicted were excessive.

1. "That the punishment of death was unnecessarily frequent.
2. "That the floggings were reckless, and at Bath positively barbarous.
3. "That the burning of 1,000 houses was wanton and cruel."

Her Majesty's Government have arrived at this conviction with the deepest concern. They are desirous of recognizing every consideration which can extenuate the condemnation it necessarily involves. But their principal anxiety must be to prevent the recurrence in any future case of proceedings like those which they now deplore. It appears to them to be evident that, even in the first excitement of the disturbances, and still more at some later period if martial law was allowed to continue, instructions ought to have been issued to the officers to whom the actual conduct of the operations was entrusted, which would have rendered such an abuse of power impossible. They agree entirely in the words which you have used, that "much which is now lamented might been avoided if clear and precise instructions had been given for the regulation of the conduct of those engaged in the suppression, and every officer had been made to understand that he would be held responsible for the slightest departure from those instructions. It does not seem reasonable to send officers upon a very difficult, and perfectly novel, service without instructions, and to leave everything to their judgment.

I think it is due to Mr. Eyre that I should accompany this observation by the statement that, in the instructions to Colonial Governors, no reference is made to the possible occurrence of such an emergency as that in which he was placed. How far it may be possible to frame general instructions which might assist the Governor in the case of future disturbances arising in any Colony, is a subject which will receive careful consideration at the hands of Her Majesty's Government.

It appears that Mr. Eyre was only very generally informed of the measures actually taken. In his first Despatches in reply to my inquiries, he said that whilst all the general arrangements for the suppression and punishment of the rebellion were made under his immediate direction, the subordinate details, and the internal management of the districts under martial law, including the appointment of courts-martial, the

trial of prisoners, the approval of sentences, and the carrying out of such sentences, rested entirely with the military authorities, were reported to the General in command, and only partially came under his own notice in a general manner; and in his Despatch of April 6, he further says, "Having been personally present in the eastern District up to the 20th October, and considering that one of the chief grounds stated for the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry was an allegation of excessive and unlawful severity, I think it right to mention that no such cases came under my own observation, nor were any brought to my notice, or any complaints made to me against the officers in command during the whole period of martial law;" and he then proceeds to relate instances in which abuse had subsequently come to his knowledge, and in which he had taken measures for punishment, or for inquiry.

I shall speak separately of the case of Mr. Gordon. With respect to the other measures of severity to which I have above referred, you have not imputed, and Her Majesty's Government do not impute, to Mr. Eyre any personal cognizance at the time of those measures; but they feel strongly that when a Governor has been compelled to proclaim martial law it is his bounden duty to restrain within the narrowest possible limits the severities incident to that law, and for that purpose to keep himself constantly informed of what is taking place under it. In the first alarm of such a disturbance it cannot be expected that it will be possible for him to restrain all persons acting under martial law within the bounds which his own discretion would prescribe; but if it were deemed necessary to continue martial law, it was the duty of the Governor to inform himself of the character of the proceedings taken, and to put an end to all proceedings which were not absolutely necessary and therefore justifiable on the ground of necessity. Her Majesty's Government cannot, therefore, hold the Governor of the Colony irresponsible either for the continuance or for the excessive severity of those measures.

In his first Despatch Governor Eyre directed the especial attention of Her Majesty's Government to the case of Mr. Gordon, who had been arrested at Kingston, where martial law did not prevail, had been carried to Morant Bay, tried by court-martial at that place, condemned and executed. To all the circumstances of this case you have given great attention, and have reported your opinion that "the evidence, oral and documentary, appears to be wholly insufficient to establish the charge upon which the prisoner took his trial." In this conclusion Her Majesty's Government concur. They have weighed the words in which you convey your deliberate and carefully-formed opinion upon the true explanation of Mr. Gordon's conduct.

They have not forgotten that while Governor Eyre at first exempted Kingston, on grounds of public policy, from the proclamation of martial law, he had it in his power, and would have exercised that power to issue a new proclamation, if he had thought it necessary to do so before arresting Mr. Gordon. They have duly weighed the reasons which he has assigned for the course which he pursued, namely, "that considering it right in the abstract, and desirable as a matter of policy, that whilst the poor black men who had been misled were undergoing condign punishment, the chief instigator of all the evils should not go unpunished, he at once took upon himself the responsibility of the capture; and that having seen the proceedings of the Court, he concurred both in the justice of the sentence and in the policy of carrying it into effect, regarding it as absolutely necessary for the future security of Jamaica that condign punishment should be inflicted upon those through whose seditious acts and language the rebellion had originated." But it is evident that such considerations ought to be admitted with great hesitation. If lightly accepted they would be liable to great abuse, and cases like the present, instead of being regarded as warnings, might become precedents for future action. In the present case not only has the necessity of the course actually adopted not been proved, but it appears from the evidence of Mr. Westmorland, one of the Excutive Committee, that he suggested at the time that Mr. Gordon, who had been placed on board the "Wolverene," should be reserved for trial by a regular tribunal, with all the means of defence which are secured by the ordinary process of law to every subject of the Queen. This, in the judgment of Her Majesty's Government, would have been the proper course. Considerations of public safety justified the arrest of Mr. Gordon. His removal on board the "Wolverene" for the purpose of safe custody would have been judicious; but his trial by court-martial, and his execution by virtue of the sentence of that Court, are events which Her Majesty's Government cannot but deplore and condemn.

Her Majesty's Government agree with the censure you have passed upon the tone of levity which is to be found in the letters and language of some of the officers while engaged in duties so serious and so responsible.

I have communicated copies of your Report, with the Appendix, to the Secretary of State for War, and to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, who are the proper

judges of the conduct of the military and naval officers engaged in these transactions. On my own part, I have to request that you will cause careful investigation to be made in those cases of civilians which appear to require it, with a view to such further proceedings as may be requisite and just. It will not be desirable to keep alive in the Colony the heart-burnings connected with these lamentable occurrences by any very minute endeavour to punish every act which may now be the subject of regret. But great offences ought to be punished. I rely on your Government to accomplish this necessary object, and shall expect to receive a full report of the measures which have been taken with that view. You will, of course, be very careful not to give certificates under the Indemnity Act in any cases in which there is reasonable ground to question the propriety of giving them.

Her Majesty's Government have been advised by the Law Officers of the Crown that the effect of the Indemnity Act will not be to cover acts done either by the Governor or by subordinate officers, unless they are such as (in the case of the Governor) he may have reasonably and in good faith considered to be proper for the purpose of putting an end to the insurrection, or such as (in the case of subordinates) have been done under and in conformity with the orders of superior authority, or (if done without such orders) have been done in good faith and under a belief, reasonably entertained, that they were proper for the suppression of the insurrection, and for the preservation of the public peace in the island. As regards all acts done by or under military authority, Her Majesty's Government are advised that the proclamation of martial law under the Island Statute of 1844 operated within the proclaimed district to give as complete an indemnity as the Indemnity Act itself. But—

1. For any acts done beyond the proclaimed district the authority of the Act of 1844 and of the Proclamation is inapplicable.

2. Civilians, who may have acted *bonâ fide* for the suppression of the rebellion, although without military authority, would have a protection secured to them by the Indemnity Act which they might not obtain from the mere operation of martial law.

3. Under the Indemnity Act the certificate of the Governor is conclusive for the protection of subordinates. I have already directed you, and your own judgment doubtless would have led you to the same conclusion, how careful you must be in giving these certificates; and, with this precaution taken, Her Majesty's Government have determined that the Act of Indemnity ought to be left to its operation.

Finally, I have to express on the part of Her Majesty's Government their sense of the promptitude and judgment with which Governor Eyre submitted to the late Legislature the views which he entertained, and in which they so readily concurred, as to the expediency of effecting a decided change in the mode of government of the Colony. Those views have been confirmed by the sanction of the Crown, and by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, and the new form of government is about to be established under the Governor who shall succeed you when you are relieved of your temporary duties. It remains, therefore, to decide whether the inauguration of the new Government shall be accomplished by Mr. Eyre, or whether Her Majesty shall be advised to intrust that arduous task to some other person who may approach it free from all the difficulties inseparable from a participation in the questions raised by the recent troubles. It will be evident from what I have already said that Her Majesty's Government, while giving to Mr. Eyre full credit for those portions of his conduct to which credit is justly due, are compelled, by the result of your inquiry, to disapprove other portions of that conduct. They do not feel, therefore, that they should discharge their duty by advising the Crown to replace Mr. Eyre in his former Government; and they cannot doubt that, by placing the new form of Government in new hands they are taking the course best calculated to allay animosities, to conciliate general confidence, and to establish on firm and solid grounds the future welfare of Jamaica.

You will communicate to Mr. Eyre a copy of this despatch, and afterwards publish it in the Colony, together with your Report and its Appendix.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Lieut.-General Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

PAPERS

RELATING TO THE

DISTURBANCES IN JAMAICA.

PART I.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS,
1866.

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

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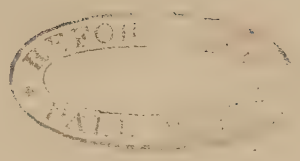

DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR EYRE.

REFERENCE
PALL MALL

Despatches from Governor Eyre.

No. 1.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 16.)*

(No. 251.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 20, 1865.

IT is my very painful duty to inform you that a most serious and alarming insurrection of the negro population has taken place in this colony, and been attended with great loss of life and destruction of property. The outbreak commenced at Morant Bay, in St. Thomas in the East, and rapidly spread through the contiguous parishes.

2. A succinct statement of the occurrences will perhaps best enable you to comprehend the very imminent jeopardy in which the colony has been placed, and the nature of the steps taken to put down the rebellion.

3. I may premise that there were three principal objects to be attained:—

First. To save the lives of the ladies, children, and other isolated and unprotected persons in the districts where the rebellion existed.

Secondly. To head the insurrectionary movement, and prevent the further spread of the rebellion in its progress along and around the east end of the island.

Thirdly. To punish the rebels and restore peace to the disturbed districts.

4. On the morning of Wednesday the 11th instant, 8 A.M., I received at Spanish Town a letter from the Baron von Ketelhodt, Custos of St. Thomas in the East, written the previous evening from Morant Bay, to inform me that serious disturbances were apprehended and to request that troops might be sent.

5. The circumstances stated in the Baron's letter were to the effect that on Saturday the 7th October, whilst a black man was being brought up for trial before the justices a large number of the peasantry, armed with bludgeons and preceded by a band of music, came into the town, and, leaving the music at a little distance, surrounded the Courthouse, openly expressing their determination to rescue the man about to be tried if convicted. One of their party having created a considerable disturbance in the Courthouse was ordered into custody, whereupon the mob rushed in, rescued the prisoner, and maltreated the policemen in attendance.

No further injury appears to have been done at this time, and the magistrates seem to have thought so little of the occurrence that no steps were taken to communicate with the Executive.

6. On Monday the 9th October the justices issued a warrant for the apprehension of twenty-eight of the principal persons concerned in the disturbance of Saturday, and confided it to six policemen for execution.

Upon the arrival of the police at the settlement where the parties lived (called "Stoney Gut," and about three or four miles from Morant Bay) a shell was blown, and the negroes collected in large numbers, armed with guns, cutlasses, pikes, and bayonets.

They caught and ill-treated three of the policemen, putting them in handcuffs and administering to them an oath upon a Bible, which they had ready, binding them to desert the whites and join their (that is, the black) party.

7. Up to this period (Monday night) the Custos had not been in the parish. He arrived on Tuesday the 10th October about noon, but did not seem, as I am informed by Mr. Stephen Cooke, Clerk of the Peace and Magistrates, even now to think much of what had taken place, and it was only at the urgent entreaty of Mr. Cooke that he was induced to write the letter to which I have already adverted.

* Answered by— No. 341, November 17, 1865, page 239; No. 343, November 23, 1865, page 240; No. 344, November 23, page 241; No. 345, November 23, 1865, page 242; No. 348, December 1, 1865, page 243.

8. Upon receiving this communication at 8 A.M. I immediately sent for the Executive Committee, and after a hurried consultation with them and with the Attorney-General an express was sent over to Kingston, requesting the General commanding Her Majesty's troops to get ready 100 men for immediate embarkation, and an express was also sent off to Captain De Horsey, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," and senior naval officer at Port Royal, to request that if possible a man-of-war might at once be sent up to Kingston to receive the troops and take them to their destination.

9. Unfortunately, the only man-of-war besides the "Wolverine" had left Port Royal for Vera Cruz on this very morning.

Captain De Horsey, however, at once got ready his own ship the "Wolverine," took her up to Kingston by 5 o'clock, and by 6 P.M. the troops were embarked and away to Port Royal, where the ship was to anchor till daylight and then run down to Morant Bay.

A letter was sent by this opportunity to Baron Ketelhodt, conveying general instructions for his guidance.

10. Having thus done all in my power at the time and without the least delay, I returned to my temporary residence at Flamstead, in the mountains, to be present at a dinner party which was to meet there the next day.

11. On that day (Thursday, the 12th), about half-past 4 P.M., I received a private letter from a Mr. Davidson, a magistrate of St. Davids, which had been sent across the country, stating that it was reported the blacks had risen and murdered the Baron, two sons of the Rector of the parish (Mr. Cooke), and several other persons; and stating that it was expected the rebels were coming along the line of the Blue Mountain Valley to destroy the properties contiguous thereto, and to murder the white and coloured inhabitants.

12. Upon receiving this communication I wrote a hasty application to the General for 200 more troops, and then at once got upon my horse and set off for Kingston. When about half-way down the mountain I met a messenger from the Custos of Kingston corroborating the intelligence I had already received. Upon arriving at the residence of General O'Connor, about 7 P.M., I found the news of the massacre had reached Kingston about 2 P.M. The General at the time was absent at Port Royal reviewing the troops, but an express was sent to him by the Custos of Kingston. This express met him about 3 P.M. as he was returning in a small gun-boat from Port Royal. He at once put back to Port Royal, and directed the embarkation from thence of another 100 men on board the gun-boat "Onyx" to proceed to the scene of the disturbance. By 6 P.M. they were on board, and all ready to sail at daylight next morning.

13. Finding that the General had thus promptly and judiciously anticipated to a considerable extent the requisition I had written, it appeared to me that the only additional step to be taken immediately was to detach a company of white troops from Newcastle, to proceed along the line of the Blue Mountain Valley, and try to intercept the rebels who were said to be coming up in that direction, whilst a party could be detached from Morant Bay to meet and co-operate with them. This was accordingly done. By midnight the order was sent off to Newcastle, and soon after 3 A.M. the company was under arms marching to execute the service; a letter having been written by me to General Jackson, an old Indian officer of ability and experience, requesting him to attach himself to the party in his capacity as a Justice of the Peace, and to afford the benefit of his local information and general experience.

14. The Executive Committee met me in consultation at the residence of General O'Connor, and expresses were sent out to collect the Privy Council, which was assembled a little before midnight. The result of the deliberation was, that it was considered expedient at once to declare martial law, and notices were forthwith sent out to the members of Privy Council and members of Assembly to meet at 8 A.M. next morning to hold a Council of War, this being the legal formality required by the 9th Vict., cap. 35, secs. 95—98.

15. Considering the extreme urgency of the case, and the magnitude of the interests at stake, I considered it my duty to make preparations for proceeding in person to the scene of disturbance, to superintend and direct the operations which might be necessary, and as there was no man-of-war in port, or English steamer, I chartered the "Caravelle," one of the French line-of-packet ships, which fortunately happened to be in port, and was most considerately placed at my service by Captain Burat.

16. About half an hour after midnight, I got away with my aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, and drove over to Spanish Town. Here I had the Governor's Secretary and his clerk at once called up, and the requisite proclamations for establishing martial law prepared. By half-past 6 A.M. on Friday the 13th I had completed my arrangements, and returned to Kingston by 8 A.M., where I met the Council of war, and, with their

concurrence, at once declared the county of Surry, excepting Kingston, to be under martial law.

17. Having requested the General to send an officer to accompany me to take command of the troops, he named Colonel Nelson, the Adjutant-General, upon whom I at once conferred the local rank of Brigadier-General in the Militia, in order to give him seniority over all other officers of Militia or Volunteers who might be present. A detachment of fifty additional troops was at once put on board the "Caravelle," and I also invited to accompany me a Member of Council, Mr. A. Fyfe; two Members of Assembly, Mr. Peter Espeut and Mr. Andrew Lewis; the Attorney-General and a Mr. Henry Hutchings, all in their capacities as officers of Militia and Volunteers.

18. By 10 A.M. we embarked. Whilst proceeding down the harbour we met Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" from the scene of action, bringing up the ladies, gentlemen, and children who had escaped, and some few prisoners who had been captured.

19. The accompanying Report was also received from the senior naval officer, conveying an account of the sad scene which had presented itself on the arrival of the "Wolverine" at 9 A.M. on Thursday morning (12th October).

The shocking tale was still more harrowing as related by those who had escaped, and some of whom appeared to have got away in a most wonderful and almost miraculous manner. No less than sixteen gentlemen were known to have been killed, and eighteen others wounded.

The most frightful atrocities were perpetrated. The Island curate of Bath, the Rev. V. Herschell, is said to have had his tongue cut out whilst still alive, and an attempt is said to have been made to skin him. One person (Mr. Charles Price, a black gentleman, formerly a Member of Assembly), was ripped open, and his entrails taken out. One gentleman (Lieutenant Hall of the Volunteers) is said to have been pushed into an out-building, which was then set on fire, and kept there until he was literally roasted alive. Many are said to have had their eyes scooped out; heads were cleft open and the brains taken out. The baron's fingers were cut off and carried away as trophies by the murderers. Some bodies were half burnt, others horribly battered. Indeed the whole whole outrage could only be paralleled by the atrocities of the Indian mutiny. The women, as usual on such occasions, were even more brutal and barbarous than the men. The only redeeming trait being that, so far as we could learn, no ladies or children had as yet been injured.

20. I append a narrative by Mr. Stephen Cooke, Clerk of the Peace and Magistrates, one of the survivors, of the circumstances immediately preceding the massacre, and so far as he knows of the occurrences of the massacre itself; but it is obvious, from the nature of the case, that it can only be a most imperfect and incomplete account. The true and full story can now never be hoped for. All the principal inhabitants of the district had been killed, and the entire Volunteer force (with the exception of a few who escaped) consisting of twenty-two officers and men, nobly died at their posts gallantly doing their duty.

21. Having sent a requisition by the "Wolverine" for another company of white troops, we proceeded on our way and arrived at Morant Bay (the scene of the murders) at about 7 P.M. (13th October).

22. Upon landing and inspecting the position and arrangements, we found that about 100 blue-jackets and marines and some 80 men of the 1st West were encamped, whilst a detachment of about 120 of the 1st West, under Captain Luke, had proceeded on towards Bath, to reconnoitre and protect the ladies and children said to be in that district.

23. Having landed the fifty men brought in the "Caravelle," orders were issued for fifty blue-jackets and marines to start at daylight on the 14th for Easington, in St. David's, to meet and co-operate with the party of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment which had been detached from Newcastle, as already stated, to work up along the line of the Blue Mountain Valley to the same locality (Easington).

24. It was now about 9 o'clock P.M., but Brigadier Nelson and myself at once embarked on board the gun-boat "Onyx," Lieutenant Brand, for Port Morant, where we arrived a little after midnight.

25. Here we learnt that Captain Luke, the officer in charge of the party from Morant Bay, had again sent on in advance, as far as Bath, a detachment of thirty-five men, under Ensign Cullen, for the purpose of protecting women and children. We ascertained also that some of the rebels were in the immediate vicinity of our camp, and a party of twenty-five men was sent out at 2 A.M. in the morning, to try and surprise some in their huts. Two men and some women were thus captured. One of the men was a principal in the disturbances of the name of Flemming; he was tried by court-

martial and at once hung. The second, quite a young man, was flogged. The women were released.

26. Early on the 14th October, having made arrangements for the remainder of the party at Port Morant to march to Bath, to co-operate with the detachment of thirty-five already there, and under the guidance of several settlers of the district, who had come up with us for the purpose, to collect and bring down the ladies, children, and other refugees to Port Morant, we returned in the gun-boat to Morant Bay, arriving about 9 A.M.

27. Soon after we reached Morant Bay the "Wolverine" came in sight, having on board another company of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment. The day was intensely wet, and as the encampment was not very well protected from the weather, the troops and sailors were subjected to much discomfort and exposure.

28. The prisoners on board the "Wolverine" were landed and five of them tried by court-martial, four of whom were hung on the stone archway of the burnt Court-house, near to which all the massacres had taken place on the 11th. One prisoner was flogged. The Attorney-General of the Colony, in his capacity as a Captain of the Militia, sat as a member of the Court.

29. Having made all necessary arrangements, we got under weigh to leave Morant Bay about 4 P.M., the gun-boat having already been despatched to Port Morant to take in the refugees collected by the troops.

30. As we were leaving the Bay, the "Urgent," troop-ship, was signalized in sight making for Port Royal to effect changes of the troops from one West Indian Island to another. She was at once signalled to come up to us, and on my application was ordered by Captain De Horsey to go in to Port Royal to coal, and then at once to proceed to Barbados for troops, for which I wrote the accompanying letter to the officer administering the Government.

31. Having made this arrangement we steamed again to Port Morant, and found the gun-boat had already taken on board the ladies and children and other refugees (numbering about 100) collected from the Bath, Plantain Garden, and contiguous districts. Many of these unfortunate people had suffered great hardships and run great risks, some having been days and nights in the cane fields or in the woods, without food or clothing save what they had on, and subject to all risks which exposure at night in a tropical country entails.

All were come away without any other possessions than the things they had on. The weather was extremely wet, and the little gun-boat, though a refuge from the rebels, could not afford to such a crowd either adequate shelter from the weather, or accommodation of any kind suited to the requirements of delicate women and children. Lieutenant Brand, and those acting under him, were most kind and zealous in doing all they could. And Captain De Horsey assisted by sending his medical officers to visit and cheer, and supply cooked medical comforts to the invalids. Still the night spent on board the gun-boat, and the subsequent voyage to Kingston, must have been one of great trial and suffering to the unfortunate refugees. Eventually, they were all landed safely on the afternoon of the 15th.

32. All having been done for the refugees in the gun-boat that was practicable, the troops, through whose exertions they were collected and brought in in safety, were re-embarked on board the "Wolverine."

Both vessels remained at anchor for the night.

33. At daylight on the 15th October, the "Onyx" started for Kingston, and the "Wolverine" for Port Antonio, where we arrived about 11 A.M., just in time to save this settlement from the rebels, who were burning buildings and destroying property about twelve miles to the eastward, and had already threatened to come in and destroy Port Antonio this very day.

34. A large number of the principal inhabitants had taken refuge on board the American barque the "Reunion," Captain Tracey, who had taken them out to sea since Friday evening, and only returned to port and anchored just before we arrived. It will be my duty to bring Captain Tracey's kindness under your notice in a separate despatch

In the town a large number of special and rural constables had been collected by the authorities, and some of the maroons had come down from Moore Town to assist, but all were without arms or ammunition, beyond a few old guns or swords that were of little value for any purpose.

The joy and relief of the inhabitants, therefore, at the arrival of the "Wolverine" may be more easily imagined than described.

35. No time was lost in disembarking the troops, and by noon a strong detachment consisting of 100 from the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment and of 1st West India Regiment (many on horseback), were on their way, under Captain Hole, 6th Regiment, to meet the

rebels, reported to be at Long Bay (twelve or fourteen miles to the eastward), and to protect the women and children and other refugees in that district, and in that of Manchioneal, to which they were to move in accordance with an arrangement concerted between myself and Brigadier Nelson.

36. Having made all necessary dispositions for the occupation of Port Antonio, expresses were sent off to Kingston and Morant Bay with information, and the party stationed at Morant Bay was ordered, in co-operation with the party expected from Newcastle up the line of the Blue Mountain Valley, at once to march by night upon the stronghold of the rebels at Stoney Gut, about four miles inland from Morant Bay, so as to arrive about daybreak, and, if possible, destroy the stronghold, and capture or cut off the rebels.

37. I personally inspected the maroons, a fine body of about 150 men, who in the most loyal spirit had come down on the day preceding our arrival, ill-armed as they were, determined to protect Port Antonio. They were unbounded in their devotion and loyalty, and were beyond measure delighted to see again their former captain, the Honourable A. G. Fyfe, whom I had brought with me in the "Wolverine," and under whose orders they at once placed themselves.

A party of maroons had already been of great service in protecting Bath, and the fact of this singular and isolated people proving faithful is one of incalculable value to the Government in the emergency which exists. I shall address you separately in reference to the maroons when I am less pressed for time.

38. It was now clear that by the rapidity of our movements we had got ahead of the rebellion, which, breaking out at Morant Bay had proceeded rapidly along the south-east, east, and north-east corner of the island.

By occupying Port Antonio in time, we not only saved that district from destruction, but we met and stopped the further progress of the rebellion twelve miles east of it.

We had indeed accomplished some most important results in a singularly brief space of time.

A military post was established at Morant Bay and another at Port Antonio, whilst the centre of a line connecting the two was occupied by the friendly maroons.

39. The greater portion of the rebels were therefore hemmed in within the country east of this line. The spread of the rebellion westward was stopped, and if no independent outbreak occurs in any other part of the island we shall have the disturbed districts under control, and can at leisure deal with and punish the insurgents.

At the same time all the helpless and unprotected ladies, children, and other refugees have been got in and saved.

40. All our most important work being thus done and the troops comfortably established in their barracks, we had for the first time a night of quiet and rest on the night of Sunday the 15th October.

41. At daybreak on Monday the 16th October a court-martial sat to try prisoners, and twenty-seven were found guilty and hung.

Despatches arrived from Kingston from the Executive Committee and from the Custos and Justices, expressing a desire for my return and urging me to proclaim martial law in Kingston.

42. As there was no pressing necessity for my stay at Port Antonio, I left the Brigadier-General Nelson to complete his military arrangements, and about 5 P.M. on the 16th set off in the "Wolverine" for Kingston, considering that my personal presence and the information and explanations I could give would do more to allay anxiety and calm apprehension than anything I could write.

There would also be the advantage of communicating personally with the General and with the Executive Committee, as well as of procuring and bringing back arms for the Maroons, without obtaining which we could not make their services fully available.

43. Having left Port Antonio on the evening of the 16th October, we dropped a Maroon messenger in a canoe off Morant Bay as we passed, with orders, and arrived off Kingston by 7 A.M. on the 17th October, almost before any one had any idea of our coming.

44. I at once communicated with the General, with the Executive Committee, and with the Civil Authorities of Kingston. Considerable apprehension seemed to be entertained that a rising might take place in Kingston, and reports were brought in that disturbances were apprehended at Linstead in St. Thomas in the Vale, about fourteen miles from Spanish Town. To guard against this last contingency, I requested the General at once to send off the troops that were in Spanish Town to Linstead, and then later in the day to replace them by troops to be called in from Rock Fort, four miles east of Kingston

45. During my absence the General had, in concert with the civil authorities, taken all measures and precautions in their power by increasing the number of Volunteers, both infantry and mounted, calling out the Pensioners, and making such other arrangements as were practicable. The General had also sent a detachment of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment from Newcastle across the country to Buff Bay (not a disturbed district) as a precautionary measure. The party sent out originally, at my request, from Newcastle, under Captain Field, to follow up the line of the Blue Mountain Valley, had been strengthened and placed under command of Colonel Hobbs in person. From this officer a report had been received, stating his progress up to a place called Mocklands, and a subsequent one announcing his intention to move on Stoney Gut and take that stronghold.

46. I found also that the General, in addition to the troops written for by me from Barbados, had made arrangements for recalling about 200 men from Nassau.

47. Having thus discussed and settled with the General all that could be at present accomplished, I met, at 9 A.M., the Custos, Mayor, and Magistrates of Kingston, to whom I explained what had been accomplished, and the present state of affairs, and I succeeded in satisfying them that, under existing circumstances, it would not be expedient at present to extend martial law to Kingston.

48. There was one very important point to be decided upon. Throughout my tour in the "Wolverine" and "Onyx" I found everywhere the most unmistakable evidence that Mr. Geo. Wm. Gordon, a coloured member of the House of Assembly, had not only been mixed up in the matter, but was himself, through his own misrepresentation and seditious language addressed to the ignorant black people, the chief cause and origin of the whole rebellion. Mr. Gordon was now in Kingston, and it became necessary to decide what action should be taken with regard to him. Having obtained a deposition on oath that certain seditious printed notices had been sent through the Post Office directed, in his handwriting, to the parties who have been leaders in the rebellion, I at once called upon the Custos to issue a warrant and capture him. For some little time he managed to evade capture; but finding that, sooner or later, it was inevitable, he proceeded to the house of General O'Connor and there gave himself up. I at once had him placed on board the "Wolverine" for safe custody and conveyance to Morant Bay.

49. Great difference of opinion prevailed in Kingston as to the policy of taking Mr. Gordon. Nearly all coincided in believing him to be the occasion of the rebellion, and that he ought to be taken, but many of the inhabitants were under considerable apprehension that his capture might lead to an immediate outbreak in Kingston itself. I did not share in this feeling. Moreover, considering it right in the abstract, and desirable as a matter of policy, that whilst the poor black men who had been misled were undergoing condign punishment, the chief instigator of all the evils should not go unpunished, I at once took upon myself the responsibility of its capture.

50. Having placed Mr. Gordon on board the "Wolverine," and having obtained a supply of arms and ammunition from General O'Connor for the use of the Maroons and others, I at once set off again in the "Wolverine," about noon on the 17th of October, on my return back to Morant Bay.

51. In leaving Port Royal we encountered Her Majesty's ship "Steady" coming in, and directions were at once given to her to coal, and then proceed westward round the island, calling in at the various ports, and taking arms for St. Elizabeth's.

52. The weather being very stormy, with strong wind and head sea against us, we were unable to get into Morant Bay that evening (17th October), and anchored outside, rolling heavily all night.

53. At dawn of day on the 18th of October we entered Morant Bay, and upon landing learnt that nothing had been heard of Colonel Hobbs or his party, but that detachments from the party of sailors and marines left on shore by the "Wolverine" since the 12th instant, and from the Royal Artillery, had proceeded about 3 A.M. this morning to attack Stoney Gut.

54. Being anxious to obtain some information as to the result of the expedition, I detained the "Wolverine" for a few hours whilst some mounted policemen followed after the expedition to procure intelligence. A hurried pencilled report from Lieutenant Oxley stated that they arrived at Stoney Gut about daybreak, but that the rebels had disappeared, and the place was deserted.

55. At 11 A.M. (18th October) we weighed anchor, and steamed for Port Antonio, where we arrived a little before dark.

All was going on well. The Reports from Captain Hole's party at Manchioneal were satisfactory, and at Port Antonio itself more volunteers had been enrolled, and more

Maroons had come down and offered their services. Many rebels had been captured, and several Courts-martial had been held, and capital punishment inflicted.

56. Finding that nothing had occurred or was likely to occur to disturb the suitability of the military arrangements which had been made by Brigadier Nelson, in accordance with my request, I decided upon returning to Kingston, first leaving a Memorandum with the Brigadier, specifying the several stations which I desired to be kept up, and the movements which I wished to be made. We remained at anchor in Port Antonio on the night of the 18th of October, and on the following day, after landing and distributing arms to the Maroons, and getting on board the Morant Bay prisoners, who had been landed here, we left about noon on the 19th October for Morant Bay; Brigadier-General Nelson accompanying me to make Morant Bay his head-quarters for directing further operations from.

57. All was going on well at the camp. The parties from Stoney Gut had returned; more rebels had been captured or shot, and a report had also been received from Colonel Hobbs, who, after reaching Stoney Gut and finding it occupied by the Morant Bay detachment, had retired again towards Mocklands, a position some distance inland on the line of the Blue Mountain Valley. Colonel Hobbs had seen and shot a good many rebels as well as captured some prisoners.

On the morning of the 20th October, having landed Brigadier Nelson and the Militia officers who aided as members of courts-martial, and having put on shore the prisoners, including G. W. Gordon, I again proceeded in the "Wolverine" to Kingston, reaching that city about 2 P.M.

58. The gun-boats the "Onyx" and the "Nettle" were left under the orders of Brigadier Nelson at Morant Bay.

59. At Kingston all was quiet, though apprehension of an outbreak is still entertained, and all practicable precautions against it taken.

Many political characters suspected of being implicated in the rebellion have, under the authority of the Executive Committee and the civil authorities, been apprehended. So also have various Haytian refugees suspected of being mixed up with the leaders of the insurrection.

60. In the country districts rumours of disaffection exist, and threatening letters are received, but no outbreak has taken place; and as the "Steady" has already gone round to visit the outports, I trust that the evil spirit which evidently pervades a large portion of the peasantry of this island will be kept under and subdued.

61. General O'Connor and the Executive Committee had also, in my absence, arranged that Her Majesty's ship "Lily," which came into port on the 20th instant, should likewise proceed westward round the island, calling at the various ports, conveying a few troops for Vere, where the expectation of an outbreak had been reported, and taking arms for several of the more distant parishes.

62. Such is a general and hurried outline of what has taken place up to this evening 20th October. The narrative has been hastily drawn up at sea, in such intervals as I could obtain from other avocations and amidst the inconveniences of board ship; I must therefore claim your indulgence for any imperfections or omissions. Up to the present time no reasonable or intelligible cause has been assigned as the origin of this most wicked and wide-spread rebellion.

63. I cannot myself doubt that it is in a great degree due to Dr. Underhill's letter and the meetings held in connection with that letter, where the people were told that they were tyranized over and ill treated, were over-taxed, were denied political rights, had no just tribunals, were misrepresented to Her Majesty's Government by the authorities and by the planters, and where, in fact, language of the most exciting and seditious kind was constantly used, and the people told plainly to right themselves, to be up and doing, to put their shoulders to the wheel, to do as the Haytiens had done, and other similar advice.

64. The parties who have more immediately taken part in these nefarious proceedings are; firstly, G. W. Gordon, a member of Assembly and a Baptist preacher; secondly, several black persons, chiefly of the Baptist persuasion, connected with him; thirdly, various political demagogues and agitators who having no character or property to lose, make a trade of exciting the ignorant people; fourthly, a few persons of better information and education, who find their interest in acquiring an influence amongst the black people by professing to advise them, whilst in reality they are but exciting and stimulating their evil passions; fifthly, a few Baptist missionaries, who like Messrs. Henderson, Reid, Dendy, Hewitt, and Maxwell, endorse at public meetings or otherwise, all the untruthful statements or inuendoes propagated in Dr. Underhill's letter; and lastly, a section of the press, which like the "Watchman" and the "County Union," is

always disseminating seditious doctrines, and endeavouring to bring into contempt the Representative of the Sovereign and all constituted authority.

65. Whilst it is my duty to point out how mischievous has been the influence of a few of the Baptist ministers and of various members of that persuasion, it is equally my duty, and a pleasure to me, to state that I believe the large majority of the Baptist ministers have been most anxious to support the authorities, to teach their people to be loyal and industrious, and to endorse the advice given to the peasantry by Her Most Gracious Majesty.

66. In reporting the occurrences of the outbreak of the rebellion and the steps taken to put it down, it is my duty to state most unequivocally my opinion that Jamaica has been, and to a certain extent still is, in the greatest jeopardy.

67. Humanly speaking I believe that the promptitude and vigour of action which has at once grappled with and punished the rebellion has been the saving of Jamaica. The whole Colony has been upon a mine, which required but a spark to ignite it. Disaffection and disloyalty still exist in nearly all the parishes of the island, and had there been the least hesitation or delay in dealing with them in the parishes where they became developed in rebellion, I confidentially believe that the insurrection would have been universal throughout the entire island, and that either the Colony would have been lost to the Mother country, or an almost interminable war and an unknown expense have had to be incurred in suppressing it.

68. In many previous despatches I have pointed out the pernicious efforts and influences of the so-called Underhill meetings, and not long since I called your attention to the necessity I was under in August last of sending men-of-war to the parishes of St. James, Trelawney, St. Elizabeth, Hanover, and Westmoreland to intimidate the malcontents, and prevent an expected rising. These measures were then successful. In the recent case of St. Thomas-in-the-East, the Government had not a sufficient warning, and our precautionary measures were too late.

69. I trust, Sir, that you will fully bear these circumstances in mind, and that in doing so you will not regard the just severity which has been exercised otherwise than as a merciful substitute for the much larger measure of punishment which would have had to be executed had the rebellion been allowed time to gather head and extend itself.

70. I regarded it not only as desirable, but a positive duty to be personally present to direct and superintend the military movements in the disturbed districts. From the first moment of the outbreak up to the date of my return to Kingston this afternoon (October 20), every disposition of the troops and every movement has been made by Brigadier Nelson under my own personal instruction and approval.

71. The whole responsibility of what has been done, therefore, rests upon me. At the same time I beg to express my own deep obligation, and the obligation of the whole community, to the military and naval authorities for the promptitude, energy, and zeal with which they have responded to my wishes, and at great personal inconvenience, risk, and hardship have successfully carried out my requirements.

To Major-General O'Connor I am indebted for the extremely ready and rapid manner in which my applications for troops or arms were met, as well as for the able and zealous manner in which, during my absence, he co-operated with the Executive Committee and the Custos of Kingston in initiating or organizing various measures for the protection of the city and parishes.

To the senior naval officer, Captain De Horsey, I am under great obligations, not only for placing his ship, the "Wolverine," at my disposal, but for going in command of her in person, and for the cheerful readiness with which he kept his ship at work almost night and day, from the first outbreak of the rebellion until his return to port to-day.

To Lieutenant Brand, of the small gun-boat "Onyx," I cannot sufficiently express my thanks for the indefatigable and untiring manner in which he kept his vessel plying day and night in a most unpleasant and arduous service.

To Brigadier-General Nelson I owe it that all my wishes as regarded military arrangements in the disturbed districts were carried out with the utmost promptitude and efficiency. We never had a difference of opinion, even upon the propriety or policy of a single act or movement, and the public service was consequently conducted, not only satisfactorily, but pleasantly.

72. I would therefore respectfully ask you to bring to the favourable notice of his Grace the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief the meritorious conduct and services of Brigadier-General Nelson; and to the favourable notice of the Lords of the Admiralty, the meritorious conduct and good service of Captain De Horsey, of Her Majesty's ship Wolverine," and of Lieutenant Brand, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Onyx." I

append a copy of a Report, by Lieutenant Brand, of the proceedings of the "Onyx" between the 12th and 18th of October, showing the amount of work, and hard work too, performed in that period. Lieutenant Brand has also been equally engaged between the 18th and 20th, but I have no official report. The colony is also much indebted to Colonel Hobbs, of Her Majesty's 6th Royal Regiment, commanding the expeditionary force on the line of the Blue Mountain Valley; to the Militia officers who accompanied me in the "Wolverine;" to Inspector Ramsay, of the police force, whose daring and activity have been most conspicuous; and generally to the troops, sailors, volunteers, and others engaged in the undertaking. My aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, of the Royal Marines, rendered very zealous and efficient service, both to myself and to Brigadier-General Nelson.

73. The exertions of the Executive Committee, and the untiring energy and zeal of the Custos of Kingston, Dr. Bowerbank, are beyond all praise, and justly entitle them to the good opinion, gratitude, and confidence of the Colony.

74. It is impossible for me to narrate all the various subordinate arrangements or movements of the respective military corps in the field, or of the several detachments sent out from them on special service. It may suffice to state generally that a large number of rebels have been shot with arms in their hands; that a great many prisoners have been tried and hung, shot, or flogged; and that a considerable number of prisoners are still on hand awaiting trial by court-martial.

76. It is difficult to arrive at any correct estimate of the number of people engaged in the rebellion. The districts where it broke out and into which it spread are fertile and very populous.

76 A. Different persons have reported seeing from several hundreds to as many thousands at a time; and Colonel Hobbs reports on the 19th instant that there were still thousands of rebels around him. No stand has ever been made against the troops; and though we are not only in complete military occupation of, but have traversed with troops, all the disturbed districts, not a single casualty has befallen any of our soldiers or sailors, and they are all in good health; they have, however, suffered much inconvenience and hardship from the state of the weather, which has been extremely wet and inclement, the month of October being the period when what are called the "season rains" usually fall.

77. We have been singularly fortunate in capturing or shooting a large number of the principal ringleaders in the rebellion, and many of whom were personally concerned in the atrocious butcheries on the 12th of October at the Morant Bay Court-house, or in the subsequent destruction of life and property further to the eastward as the rebellion extended in that direction. Very many acknowledged their guilt before execution.

78. It is a remarkable fact that so far as we can ascertain, the rebels at Morant Bay did not proceed in any considerable numbers to the adjacent districts, but the people of each district rose and committed the deeds of violence and destruction that were done within it. This fact shows how wide spread the feeling of disaffection is, and how prepared the people of each parish were to catch the spirit and follow the example of their neighbours. It shows, too, the extreme insecurity which yet exists in nearly all the other parishes of Jamaica, where the same bad spirit prevails. In the lately disturbed districts the rebellion is crushed; in the others it is only kept under for the present, but might at any moment burst into fury.

79. I append various military reports and some other papers bearing upon the rebellion or upon the state of other parishes.

It has been impracticable to obtain a correct list of all the Europeans or coloured persons who have been killed or wounded.

80. I append the names of those at present known, but there were some burnt in the Court-house, and others are missing, and nothing certain known about them. Even thus, however, the list is a very long and sad one, and comprises many persons of station, education, and weight in the community, whose loss is irreparable in a colony like Jamaica.

81. Copies of a letter taken at Stoney Gut, and of threatening letters which have since been received either here or at Kingston are attached.

I also add copies of the local newspapers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S. October 23.—Having kept my despatch open, I am enabled to add that Mr. George William Gordon has been tried by court-martial at Morant Bay, and sentenced to be hung. The execution was to take place this morning at 8 A.M.

I have seen the proceedings of the Court and concur both in the justice of the sentence, and in the policy of carrying it into effect. It is absolutely necessary for the future security of Jamaica that condign punishment should be inflicted upon those through whose seditious acts and language the rebellion has been originated.

2. I inclose copies of the report from the General, and of my letter in reply.

I have omitted to state that during my absence the Executive Committee caused the Haytian refugees in this island, and various other persons who were suspected of being mixed up with or of encouraging seditious movements, to be taken into custody. I quite concur in the propriety of this step.

3. If no further outbreak occurs I hope to be able, in a short time, to proclaim a general amnesty, except to actual murderers, upon the rebels coming in and submitting to the Queen's authority, and I yet hope that the disturbed districts will be sufficiently quieted in time for the sugar crops, now nearly fit for cutting, to be reaped.

October 24, 1865.—I would particularly call your attention to the fact stated in Colonel Hobbs' Report of 15th of October, that the rebels are not the poor or the starving, but persons who are well off and well to do in the world, and better educated than the lower class of negroes generally are; an experience abundantly confirmed from many other quarters.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

The Custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East to the Governor's Secretary.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 10, 1865.

I DEEPLY regret that it is my duty to bring to the notice of his Excellency the Governor that a serious outbreak among certain of the labouring population in this neighbourhood is threatened, and, in fact, has already commenced.

The facts are briefly these:—

A number of over 150 men, armed with sticks, and preceded by a band of music, came on Saturday, the 9th October, with the openly expressed intention to rescue a man who was that day to be tried for some offence if found guilty; leaving the band of music outside the town, they proceeded to the square in front of the Court-house. A man having been ordered into custody on account of the noise he was making in the Court house, a rush was made by a body of the men referred to, and the man rescued from the hands of the police, one of whom was left with his finger broken, and several others beaten and ill-treated.

In consequence of this outrage, warrants were issued yesterday against twenty-eight individuals who had been identified, and the warrants placed to-day in the hands of six policemen and three rural constables for execution.

On, however, the attempt being made by this force to arrest one Paul Bogle, I am informed by the policemen who have just returned, that on a signal being given, a body of over 150 men, armed with cutlasses, bayonets, and pikes, appeared and made prisoners of three of the policemen, on two of whom they placed handcuffs, and only suffered them to leave after having obtained an oath from them that they (the police) would join them.

The oath was administered by Paul Bogle on a Bible he had at hand.

The statement of all the policemen is to the effect that the people openly declared that they would come to Morant Bay to-morrow.

I have, under these circumstances, thought it my duty to direct the Inspector of Police to assemble here to-morrow the whole of the men of whom he can dispose in this parish and St. David—the latter through the Custos of that parish; and I have also despatched an order to Captain Hitchins to attend here with the St. Thomas in the East No. 1 Company.

But as the policemen thus procurable amount to only thirty men, and the company of Captain Hitchins consists of only about twenty men, and the Morant Bay Company can turn out at most twelve efficient men, I very much fear, and my fears are shared by the Inspector of Police and magistrates, and other respectable inhabitants residing on the Bay, that this force will be utterly incapable to cope with the body of men who have committed this gross outrage on the authority of the law.

I may add that for fear of overstating the case, I named 150 as the number of the men engaged in the outrage of this day; but the evidence I have received while writing this despatch leaves no doubt in my mind that the number was far greater.

The police and the Morant Bay Volunteers have no powder.

I cannot hesitate, under these circumstances, to submit that is very probable that without some military aid, the force at the disposal of the authorities will, in the event of the people carrying out their threats, be insufficient to uphold the law, and in that case the worst consequences must be anticipated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. A. von KETELHODT.

P.S.—6 P.M.—The shells are at this moment blowing to collect men all through the Blue Mountain Valley and through John's.

I am of opinion that no time ought to be lost in despatching a sufficient military force.

M. A. von K.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 11, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that information has just reached me that a serious disturbance has occurred in the neighbourhood of Morant Bay, by a party of over 100 to 150 men, armed with cutlasses, bayonets, and pikes.

It is necessary that the most prompt measures should be taken to put down this resistance to constituted authority, and I have the honour to request your Excellency will be pleased at once to detach 100 men, to be removed to the disturbed district.

I have requested the Senior Naval Officer to provide conveyance for these troops, if possible in a man-of-war, and I trust that arrangements might be made to embark them in the course of the day, as, if possible, the steamer ought to leave with them without delay, since it is stated that rioters "will come to Morant Bay to-day."

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 11, 1865.

I SHALL be obliged by your Excellency's causing the enclosed letter to be given in charge to the officer commanding the detachment of troops to be sent to Morant Bay, in order that it may be delivered to the Custos of the parish as soon as the vessel arrives there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Baron von Ketelhodt.

Sir, *King's House, October* 11, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, private and official, of yesterday's date, notifying the disturbances which have occurred at Morant Bay.

I have lost no time in requesting the General to detach 100 men, and the senior naval officer to send them in a man-of-war

Upon their arrival you will be good enough to communicate with the respective officers in command, who are directed to co-operate with the civil authorities.

The troops will take tents, but you may possibly be able to accommodate them in the Court-house or other buildings, and you will have also to make the best arrangements you can for provisioning the troops.

The volunteers and police will of course act in co-operation with the troops: if necessary extra arms and ammunition will be forwarded for them.

Neither the troops or volunteers should be employed in executing warrants of apprehension.

They are for the protection of the town, and by having them you can detach any number of police to execute warrants.

If requisite the whole of the rural constabulary should be called out, and this step would also tend to show if the disaffection extended to them.

You will be good enough to report any occurrences of importance by express messenger, and, under any circumstances, to keep the Government fully informed of the progress of events.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 11, 1865, 11·30 A.M.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's letter (in duplicate) dated this day, and in reply I beg to acquaint you that the detachment of Infantry therein requested is under orders to embark, on the arrival of a man-of-war at Kingston.

Fifty spare stand of arms, with ammunition, will likewise be put on board, together with camp equipment.

The officer commanding Royal Navy Port Royal has been communicated with, in order, if possible, to have your Excellency's wish for light field-pieces carried out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

P. S.—The letter for Baron Von Ketelhodt shall be given to the officer proceeding in command.

L. S. O'C.

Inclosure 6 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 11, 1865, 4·20 P.M.

REFERRING to my letter of this morning, 11.30, I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" is, I am informed, now coming up the harbour, with the view, I apprehend, of embarking the detachment of troops asked for by your Excellency.

The troops are ready for immediate embarkation, as also a light field-piece, under charge of an officer, Royal Artillery, is on board, embarked at Port Royal.

The fifty stand of arms, with ammunition sought for, will be handed over to the Civil Power, by the officer commanding troops proceeding to Morant Bay.

Trusting I have met your Excellency's views, I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 7 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey.

Sir, *King's House, October* 11, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that a serious disturbance has occurred at Morant Bay, by a party of over 100 to 150 people, armed with cutlasses, bayonets, and pikes, and that it is indispensable that the promptest measures should be adopted to put down this resistance to constituted authority.

I have requested the General in command to have ready for embarkation without delay, 100 troops, and I shall feel obliged by your providing the necessary transport for them, if possible, in a man-of-war, as the presence of a vessel of war would be of great value, and the additional assistance she might afford, of great importance.

If you can spare a vessel for this service she should at once be sent up to Kingston to take in the troops, as it is desirable they should reach Morant Bay with the least possible delay, as it is stated that the "rioters" will come to Morant Bay "to-day."

I shall be obliged by your notifying to the Major-General commanding the hour at which the man-of-war will be able to embark the men, and also by your directing the officer in command to assist and co-operate with the Civil authorities at Morant Bay in putting down the disturbance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 1.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Jamaica, October* 11, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's letter of this date, and acquaint you that the "Wolverine" will at once proceed to execute the service therein requested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Head-Quarter House, Kingston, October* 12, 1865.

I PARTLY inspected the 1st West India regiment yesterday morning when I received your despatch, detailing troops for Morant Bay; in the hour the required number were ready for service, and the Acting Commodore lost no time, so the detachment embarks before 6 o'clock on board the "Wolverine." Accustomed to Colonial and Irish riots since the emancipation of the slaves in 1834 to the recent "mild rows" in Belfast, I am induced to hope the present disturbance, magnified into an insurrection, will be speedily checked by the prompt measures your Excellency adopted. Rest assured, at all times, your slightest wish will be cheerfully and speedily carried out by, my dear Governor, yours, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 10 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to General O'Connor.

My dear General, *Flamstead, October* 12, 1865.

THANKS for your kind note of this morning, as well as for the prompt manner in which you responded to my application for a detachment of troops.

With you I trust and hope that nothing very serious will take place; but prevention is better than cure, and I fear that if an insurrectionary spirit were once allowed to make any headway, it would be more general and uncontrollable, and might cause a vast amount of trouble and expense before it was put down.

There is undoubtedly an uneasy spirit, almost amounting to disloyalty and disaffection, in some of the districts, which has recently been fanned and stimulated by evil-disposed and ill-judging persons at the so-called "Underhill Meetings" which have taken place in various parishes, and nothing but the utmost vigilance and the promptest action on the part of the Government will prevent these smouldering embers bursting into flame, and then, as you know, the physical features of the country, and the almost inaccessible positions of a large number of the people, would make it very difficult to deal with an outbreak on a large scale, or in several different localities at once.

If any serious difficulty were to arise I should at once be off to the scene of operations myself, but I am in hopes that a firm attitude and a little demonstration of power may avert this unadvisable contingency.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 1.

Mr. Davidson, J.P., to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Sherwood Forest, October* 12, 1865.

I DEEM it my duty, as a justice of the peace for this parish, to hasten to apprise you of the information I received in a letter a short time ago. The letter I have sent to a neighbour, so regret I cannot enclose it.

The people at Morant Bay have risen, burnt down the Court-house, released all the prisoners, murdered several of the white people. The names I have heard are Mr. Cooke, clerk of the peace, Mr. D. Macpherson, C. V., Mr. R. McPherson, jail-keeper, Mr. Walton, a magistrate.

The contents of the letter as above I believe to be correct, although it may not be improbable the rumour is exaggerated; being so serious a one, however, there no doubt is considerable truth in it.

The letter further states that it is the intention of the mob to go up the valley and onwards (I fancy in this direction).

Should the information to your Excellency fall far short of the truth, which I fondly hope it may do, I consider I have only done my duty in bringing it before you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN DAVIDSON, *J.P.*,
St. David, Mountain District.

P.S.—Having received the letter I enclose it for your Excellency.

Inclosure 12 in No. 1.

Mr. Mc Enery to Mr. Davidson.

My dear Sir, *Richmond Vale, October* 12, 1865.

I AM sorry to inform you that the people down the valley have risen; they have burnt down the Court-house, &c., at Morant Bay, released all prisoners and killed the under-noted white people. A released prisoner who has come this way states that it is the mob's rumour that they are to proceed with their work of devastation up this way; therefore I have written you that you may use your discretion as to what is to be done, and to make it known to those it concerns.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. RICHD. McENERY, *J.P.*

P.S.—The gentlemen murdered, viz., Mr. John Walton, Stephen Cooke, Duncan McPherson, and Robert McPherson, all known at present.

Inclosure 13 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to General O'Connor.

(Extract.) *Flamstead, October* 12, 1855, 5 P.M.

I REGRET to say that information has just been communicated to me that the insurrection at Morant Bay has assumed a serious form, that the rioters have burnt down the Court-house, released all the prisoners, and murdered several white persons.

I have no authentic details, and I trust this statement may prove exaggerated, though the names of four gentlemen who are stated to have been murdered are given.

No doubt some reliable intelligence will reach me in the course of a few hours, and in the meantime it is requisite to make preparations to act promptly, supposing this sad intelligence is confirmed.

I have therefore to request your Excellency will be good enough to have in readiness for embarkation, as early to-morrow as practicable, 200 more troops with the necessary camp equipage and provisions for some days, as it may be uncertain what means of provisioning the troops will exist in the disturbed district. Considering that the outbreak is by the black population, and that some of the soldiers of the West India regiments may be creoles of this country, and connected by ties of relationship, or of

sympathy, with some of the disaffected peasantry, I am of opinion that at least two companies of white troops should be brought down at once from Newcastle and held in readiness to embark to-morrow as part of the reinforcement of 200 men more asked for, should further intelligence confirm the news now received.

In case of the report which I have now just received by express proving correct, I purpose myself embarking with the reinforcement for the scene of disturbance, and under any circumstances I shall be in Spanish Town early to-morrow morning to make any arrangements which may be requisite, and where all letters would reach me after this evening.

Inclosure 14 in No. 1.

The Hon. L. Q. Bowerbank to Governor Eyre.

My dear Sir, *Kingston, October* 12, 1865, 2·45 P.M.

I HAVE just received a letter from Georges, who is lying at the Rectory at Morant Bay with two bullets in his leg. He reports the death of the Baron, of Herschell, Mr. Cook's three sons, Anthony Price, and Dr. Gerrard and many others. He begs, for God's sake, that troops may be sent down. His note is dated at 6 o'clock A.M. this day. The messenger tells me the vessel was going on. I am sorry to say the General and his staff are all at Port Royal.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) L. Q. BOWERBANK.

P.S.—I have telegraphed for the General, and will act according to his order and advice.

Matters may be serious; had you not better come down at once?

Inclosure 15 in No. 1.

The Hon. W. P. Georges to the Hon. L. Q. Bowerbank.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 12, 1865, 6 A.M.

I AM about the last of the few whites who are left to tell the mournful tale.

The Baron Ketelhodt, Rev. — Herschell, the rector's three sons, Dr. Gerrard, Anthony Price, and many others have been killed.

Myself has now two bullets in my leg. If you would not hear of more sad tidings I beg you will at once send off troops in a man-of-war.

A despatch was sent on Tuesday night to the Governor, but we heard it was intercepted on the road.

The people are all coming back to-day at 12 o'clock.

Yours truly,
(Signed) W. P. GEORGES.

Inclosure 16 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 12, 1865.

FROM information I have received I have reason to apprehend that the insurgents, after devastating Morant Bay, and massacreing nearly the whole of the white inhabitants, are intending to march upon the line of the Yallahs, viâ Sherwood Forest and Richmond. I have the honour to request that your Excellency will be pleased to detach fifty men in light marching order from Newcastle, to proceed direct, with the least possible delay, along that line of route, to pass by General Jackson's at Mahogany Vale, who is a magistrate, and will accompany and guide them in their future course.

Should General Jackson have left upon any emergency, Mr. McHenry or some other magistrate acquainted with that locality can be obtained to act as guide and accompany the troops.

A policeman will be sent from this who knows the country, to render any service in his power in guiding the troops from Newcastle to General Jackson's.

As every moment may be of consequence in saving life and preventing the destruction of property, I would urge upon your Excellency that the troops should be marched from Newcastle in the direction indicated with the least possible delay after the receipt of your Excellency's instructions, and to co-operate with the troops which I propose should be detached to Easington, or with those already sent to Morant Bay, as may be found most expedient.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 17 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to General Jackson, or, in his absence, any other Justice of the Peace.

October 12, 1865.

FIFTY white troops from Newcastle are directed to proceed in light marching order from that station direct to Mahogany Vale, and I have to request that, if not from home, you will be good enough to accompany them in your capacity of Justice of the Peace, as a guide.

The intention is that these men should march viâ Sherwood Forest, and co-operate with a detachment to be sent to Easington, or with the troops already detached to Morant Bay, as may be found most expedient.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 18 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *October* 12, 1865, 8 P.M.

IN addition to the requisition for a detachment of troops to proceed from Newcastle on the line of the Yallahs to Sherwood Forest, I have the honour to request your Excellency will detach a company of men to Easington, a station about five miles inland from the coast and about eighteen miles from Kingston.

This arrangement, in connection with that for detaching men to Sherwood Forest will, I imagine, completely hem in the insurgents on this side, and prevent their extending their ravages in the direction of the metropolis, as well as guard the outlying estates in the vicinity of the disturbed district.

Mr. Fyfe, one of our ablest magistrates, will accompany the detachment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 19 in No. 1.

Proclamation of Martial Law.

Jamaica, ss.

VICTORIA, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, and of Jamaica supreme Lady, Defender of the Faith—

To all our loving subjects!

Whereas we are certified of the committal of grievous trespasses and felonies within the parish of St. Thomas in the East of this our Island of Jamaica, and have reason for expecting that the same may be extended to the neighbouring parishes of the county of Surry of our said island: We do hereby, by the authority to us committed by the laws of this our island, declare and announce to all whom it may concern, that martial law shall prevail throughout the said county of Surry, except in the city and parish of Kingston; and that our military forces shall have all power of exercising the rights of belligerents against such of the inhabitants of the said county, except as aforesaid, as our said military forces may consider opposed to our Government, and the well-being of our loving subjects.

Given at Head Quarter House, Kingston, on the thirteenth day of October, in the

year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and in the twenty-ninth year of our reign.

Witness:—His Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over our said Island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

By his Excellency's command,
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Governor's Secretary.*

Inclosure 20 in No. 1.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Wolverine," at Morant Bay, October* 12, 1865.

I REGRET to have to inform your Excellency that the disturbance you apprehended at this place has occurred, and with sad results; about twenty-eight men, including the Custos of the parish, having been brutally murdered, and the Court-house burned by the rioters.

The company of the 1st West were immediately landed, and as the attack on the town is expected to be repeated to-night, I intend landing a party of 114 men from this ship to co-operate with them in preserving order, and the "Wolverine" will return to Port Royal to-morrow morning at daylight, conveying those of the white inhabitants who desire to go to Kingston, and with the object of bringing here any further troops your Excellency may desire to send.

I would urge on your Excellency the necessity of sending at least another company to this place, in order that the party landed from the "Wolverine" may rejoin their ship, so that she may be efficient for proceeding to any other part of the island, should it be necessary; as I, unfortunately, at present have no other man-of-war at Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Inclosure 22 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *"Wolverine," October* 13, 1865, 12·45 P.M.

FROM the report just brought in by Captain De Horsey, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," I have reason to believe it would be desirable to send early to-morrow by the "Wolverine" one company of white troops as a nucleus for the coloured troops, should any conflict take place. At present there are a considerable number of white sailors co-operating with the coloured troops; but Captain De Horsey justly points out that it might be desirable to ship his men again should the "Wolverine" be detached on duty to any other part of the coast.

I should therefore be obliged by your Excellency's detaching one company of white troops on this service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 23 in No. 1.

Mr. Benjamin to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Easington, St. David, October* 12, 1865.

AS Magistrate's Clerk of the parish of Saint David, I beg leave to inform you of a serious outbreak in the parish of St. Thomas in the East, which has resulted in the death of several influential gentlemen, among whom are the Baron, our Custos, the Honourable W. P. Georges, Mr. Price, Rev. —. Herschell, and several others; the Volunteers beat down, and several murdered; the entire Court-house burnt down, police station demolished, &c., &c. I have further learned that it is the intention of the rebels to

come into St. David and destroy property, and murder every respectable man. We are without protection, the police having been taken away to Morant Bay, and the constabulary force being so small would avail nothing among a large body of men against us. I therefore would suggest to his Excellency respectfully (if not too premature) that a company of troops be sent to Yallahs, and one to Easington (if available) to protect the parish, which I consider to be in imminent danger.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MYER BENJAMIN.

Inclosure 24 in No. 1.

Sergeant Mc Kenzie to the Hon. E. Jordon.

Sir, *Police Office, Morant Bay, October* 12, 1865.

IT becomes my painful duty to report to you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, on account of the anticipated disturbance likely to arise between the authorities of the parish and the peasantry; the No. 1 company of volunteers were ordered down from Bath, and were embodied with a few of the No. 2 company, and were under arms at the Court-house during the sitting of the Vestry, Wednesday, the 11th of October, 1865, about half-past 3 P.M. At this time the peasantry in a large body came into the town, first attacked the police-station, and took possession of the arms, the police at the time being at the Court-house. The mob then advanced to the parade, where the volunteers were drawn up. His Honour the Custos began to read the Riot Act, the mob advanced close to the volunteers, when the volunteers fired, and some of the mob were killed. The following gentlemen were killed:—His Honour the Custos, Inspector Alberga, Justices Walton and A. B. Cooke, Rev. Victor Herschell, Captain Hitchins, and Lieutenant Hall, No. 1 company Volunteers, Mr. Arthur Cooke, and Mr. Charles Anthony Price, and several other persons were killed, and others wounded. The Court-house, school-house, and the fort-house were burned down. The police force is disorganised. The prisoners in the district prison have been liberated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. O. Mc KENZIE.

Inclosure 25 in No. 1.

Mr. Stephen Cooke's Statement.

On board Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," off Port Antonio, October 17, 1865.

IN obedience to the command of his Excellency the Governor, I beg leave to state as follows.—

On Saturday, the 7th day of October, 1865, while the Court of Petty Sessions was proceeding with the business of the Court, the proceedings were interrupted by one Charles Geoghegan. The justices presiding ordered the offender to be brought before the Court. The instant the order was given the party attempted to make his escape, but was captured on the steps of the Court-house. Paul Bogle and two other persons rescued the prisoner and ran down the steps of the Court-house with him, where they were met by upwards of one hundred persons with sticks; the prisoner was successfully rescued, and carried off, not, however, before the police were severely beaten and ill-treated. On Monday, the 9th of the said month of October, by order of the presiding justices, Messrs. Walton and Bowen, I issued a warrant for the apprehension of Paul Bogle and the other rioters. There were seven policemen and five constables despatched to execute the warrant, none of whom, to the best of my knowledge, returned before the following day. Two of the policemen who were sent to execute the warrant informed me on their return, that as soon as the warrant was read to Paul Bogle, and the police attempted to capture him, a horn was immediately blown, and about 200 people appeared out of Paul Bogle's chapel and an adjoining canepiece, and captured two of the policemen and one constable, the others making their escape; they were handcuffed and taken into Paul Bogle's house, who threatened them that if they would take an oath to join them against the whites they would spare their lives, if not, they would be murdered, to which they consented, and the oath was duly administered to them by Paul Bogle.

Shortly after this information, his Honour the Custos, the Honourable Maximilian Augustus Baron von Ketelhodt, arrived at Morant Bay, and I immediately communicated to him the statement made to me; the policemen were then sent for, and examined carefully by his Honour the Custos, who was satisfied that danger was apprehended, and wrote off for the No. 1 Company of Volunteers from the town of Bath, distant about thirteen miles from Morant Bay. A despatch was sent to his Excellency the Governor for troops on the same evening, the 18th instant. On the following day, Wednesday, there was a meeting of the Vestry at Morant Bay, at which his Honour the Custos and several magistrates were present. About 3 o'clock in the evening, and while the Vestry was still sitting, a band of music was heard, and shortly after, from about 400 to 500 men appeared, armed with sticks, cutlasses, spears, guns, and other deadly weapons. The Custos then appeared on the steps of the Court-house and entreated the people not to come into the square of the Court-house, and requested to know of what they complained. At this time the volunteers, eighteen in number, were drawn up in front of the Court house; the mob still persisted in entering the square, and when about fifty yards from the volunteers the Riot Act was read by the Custos, but which had no effect on the rioters. On the rioters coming within ten yards of the volunteers they fired a volley of stones at them; the order was then given to fire, and several of the rioters killed. The fury of the rioters was such that every one had to take refuge inside the Court-house; several shots were fired into the Court-house, the windows were all smashed to pieces and ultimately fired and burnt down; his Honour the Custos was murdered in the most brutal and savage manner, with other magistrates and gentlemen of the parish. It was currently reported that after the Custos had been killed they partially severed all the fingers of the right hand, saying this was the damned hand that wrote to the Queen against the people.

(Signed) STEPHEN COOKE,
Clerk of the Peace, St. Thomas-in-the East, Jamaica.

Inclosure 26 in No. 1.

Colonel Hunt to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *King's House, October* 20, 1865.

IT is my most painful duty to report to your Excellency that almost the whole of the No. 1 Company of the St. Thomas in the East Rifle Volunteers have been cut to pieces by the rebels, after a most gallant and determined resistance to the attack made on the court-house at Morant Bay.

The volunteers were only twenty-two in number, and were opposed by a mob of between 400 and 500 armed rebels, and fought to the last with the utmost bravery.

I regret I cannot herewith append a correct return, being unable at present to obtain correct information regarding the few survivors, but I can state that the whole of the officers, viz., Captain Hitchins, Lieutenant Hall, and 2nd Lieutenant Reid, fell at their posts, fighting gallantly to the last against overwhelming numbers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. W. B. HUNT.

Inclosure 27 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to the Governor of Barbados.

Sir, *"Wolverine," off Morant Bay, October* 14, 1865, 4 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that an insurrectionary outbreak of the most serious and alarming kind has taken place in this island. The barbarous massacre of a large number of gentlemen, being ministers of religion, magistrates, proprietors of properties, or persons otherwise interested in or connected with estates in this island, has taken place. A large amount of property has been destroyed; numerous estates in high cultivation have had to be left entirely abandoned; a large portion of the south-eastern, eastern, and north-eastern portion of the colony has been put under martial law; and general apprehension and alarm exist lest the movement extend to the entire island, and the insurrection become a general one.

In this emergency a large portion of the troops stationed in this colony have been rapidly withdrawn from the head-quarters and distributed at various points in the

disturbed districts. I have myself been for the last two days personally engaged in directing and superintending, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Nelson, these movements, and I am now on board Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," *en route* to Port Antonio, a place on the north side of the island, to establish another military post.

The whole of the troops in this colony do not exceed above 1,000 (exclusive of those at Honduras and Bahamas), and I cannot conceal from myself that such a number is utterly inadequate to suppress the insurrection in the districts where it now exists, and would not supply any troops whatever for the assistance or defence of other portions of the colony should the outbreak, as is feared may be the case, unhappily extend to them. I have therefore most urgently to solicit your Excellency to direct that, if possible, 500 troops, or as many as you can spare, may be despatched to our assistance with as little delay as possible in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," sent herewith for the purpose.

It would be very desirable that the troops should be accompanied by as many medical officers as possible, and should include any artillerymen and light field-pieces that can be spared.

It may be as well to bring to your Excellency's notice, as an additional reason for this urgency, the immense area of Jamaica, extending about 150 miles in length, and from 50 to 60 in breadth, and the physical features of which are of such a nature as at once to prevent a rapid intercommunication with distant points, and render exceedingly difficult all inland movement of troops, whilst they afford both shelter and supplies of food to the insurgents in fertile fastnesses of the mountains where a large portion of the peasantry reside.

There is no intelligible cause for this sad outbreak, and nothing but the most prompt and vigorous measures will put it down.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 28 in No. 1.

The Hon. L. Bowerbank to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 14, 1865.

AT a special session of the peace held this day the enclosed resolution was unanimously passed by some thirty or forty of the magistrates.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEWIS Q. BOWERBANK, *Custos.*

Inclosure 29 in No. 1.

Resolution.

AT a special session of the peace held at the Court-house in the city and parish of Kingston, on the 14th day of October, 1865;

It was resolved that his Honour the Custos be requested to send an express to his Excellency the Governor, requesting his immediate presence in Kingston with the view of considering the necessity of having martial law declared here, it being considered of the greatest importance that this step should be taken at once.

(Signed) JAMES DAYES, *Deputy Clerk of the Peace.*

Inclosure 30 in No. 1.

Mr. Myers to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Kingston, October* 14, 1865, *noon.*

I AM directed by Mr. Westmoreland and Mr. Hosack to inform your Excellency that, in their opinion, in the state of things now discernible, it is most desirable that your Excellency should, with the least possible delay, be present in Kingston.

The Executive Committee also consider it to be of high importance, that further military power should be obtained, and held available for service in this island. The readiest, and in view of the necessity to avoid losing time, as it appears the only resort practicable, seems to be to the Captain-General of Cuba, for troops to act with Her

Majesty's forces in this island. They recommend, therefore, that application should be made, with the least possible delay, to the Captain-General of Cuba, for assistance accordingly.

They understand also that there is a British ship of war at the Havana, and they further recommend that this vessel should be forthwith ordered to Port Royal, Jamaica, for the purpose of aiding in the operations necessary under the circumstances.

This vessel might bring some troops from Cuba.

If anything should prevent your Excellency's return to Kingston, the Executive Committee trust that you will forward for transmission the application to the Captain-General of Cuba for troops, and that to the Senior Naval Officer for the coming to Port Royal of the British ship of war from Havana.

They think that 2000 troops should be applied for, infantry, with a proportion of cavalry and artillery; 1000 to come at once, and 1000 to follow.

I am to add that unfavourable intelligence has been received from other parishes in the County of Surry, besides St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The Inspector of Police also apprehends mischief in Kingston.

The application for troops and that for the ship of war should, the Executive Committee suggest, if possible be dispatched by one of the steamers at your Excellency's command, to save time, if your Excellency should not return immediately to Kingston.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. R. MYERS.

Inclosure 31 in No. 1.

Memorandum for the Brigadier-General.

IN the present state of the insurrection, and of the arrangements for putting it down, it appears clear that the district in which the rebels are most in force lies between the military post at Manchioneal and the station recently evacuated at Easington.

I am of opinion that the most effectual positions to occupy for present purposes will be,—

A station at Port Antonio;
A station at Manchioneal;
A station at Morant Bay;
A station at Easington;

The latter having been broken up would have to be re-occupied.

I am further of opinion that thirty of the Charleston Maroons should be armed and sent back to their own district, under a competent head, to protect that district and the vicinity, and to act as occasion may require. I think that 150 of the Mooretown Maroons should be armed, and placed under Colonel Fyfe.

That they should be sent into the centre of the line between Morant Bay and Port Antonio (near Mooretown), to be divided into two divisions, one to act in the direction of Morant Bay, or towards Blue Mountain Valley, the other towards Bath, Plantain Garden River, and Manchioneal districts, each scouring the hills and the outskirts of the cultivated lands, to drive in, cut off, or capture the rebels, if any have retired from the lowlands or lands contiguous. If the Maroons thus act in co-operation with the military parties at Port Antonio, Manchioneal, Morant Bay, and Easington, I think the country will be completely scoured, and those in arms against the Queen be either cut off or captured—a step which is essential prior to the declaration of an amnesty.

It would, of course, be important that the party under Colonel Hobbs, last heard of at Monckland, should act in co-operation with these arrangements, but at present we have no intelligence of his movements since leaving Monckland.

I think forty stand of arms and corresponding ammunition should be left at Morant Bay, to be distributed to a party of planters, and others, who are prepared to arm from Kingston and re-establish themselves in the Plantain Garden River or Bath districts, if so armed.

A man-of-war will be sent round the island in the course of a few days to call at all the sea-ports.

Another man-of-war will in a few days be at Morant Bay, at the disposal of Brigadier-General Nelson, to facilitate any movements he may desire to make, so as to keep up his intercommunication. A gun-boat can also, if required, be placed at the Brigadier's command for this purpose.

It is my own intention to leave Morant Bay for Kingston about the 20th or 21st

instant, when I shall be happy to make or facilitate any additional arrangements which the Brigadier-General may consider desirable.

There is a settlement (Altamont, I think it is called) about four miles from the Maroon town, where several white or coloured families reside, and are apprehensive of danger. This post should be visited by the Maroon party.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

October 18, 1865.

Inclosure 32 in No. 1.

Report of the Proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Onyx."

October 12.—LEFT Port Royal and proceeded to Kingston, where we embarked General O'Connor and suite, and returned to Port Royal, where the General inspected the troops. On returning to Kingston the same afternoon we met a boat with Lieutenant Adcock in it, who reported the outbreak at Morant Bay. We immediately put back to Port Royal, and the General went back to Kingston in the "Aboukir's" cutter. I proceeded at once to the coal wharf; coaled, provisioned, and watered ship; got ammunition, shot and shell, &c., on board. At 8·30 went alongside the dockyard, where 100 of the 1st West Indian regiment under Captain Luke, and one field-piece under Lieutenant Marsh, R.A., embarked. At 9 P.M. steamed out of Port Royal, and arrived at Morant Bay at 6·15 A.M. on the 13th; after communicating with Captain de Horsey, went alongside the pier and disembarked all troops. At 8·15 same day embarked one subaltern and twenty-five men West Indian regiment, cast off and proceeded to Port Morant and anchored there at 11·30 A.M.: picked up some families in open boats and canoes. Observing a great many rebels sacking Mr. Duffus' store at Bowden, I cleared away after-pivot gun and gave them one shot and two shell, which dispersed them. As they had fired the place before leaving, I landed a small party and put out the fire, bringing off six or seven prisoners. At 1 P.M. up anchor and went alongside Bowden's wharf to see if any of Mr. Duffus' things could be saved; but finding everything totally destroyed, smashed, or stolen, I proceeded at once for Morant Bay, having collected about thirty refugees, and arrived there at 5 P.M. On the arrival of the "Caravalle" with his Excellency the Governor, I communicated with the French Captain, and he kindly offered to take all my people down to Kingston, and send boats to fetch them himself.

Employed landing troops and provisions from French steamer for an hour after martial law had been proclaimed at camp. His Excellency the Governor, General Nelson, Colonel Hurst, Mr. Fyfe, and some private gentlemen embarked at 9·0 P.M., and I cast off and proceeded to Port Morant, and arrived there at 12·15 A.M. on the 14th October, where his Excellency and suite disembarked at 6·25. His Excellency and suite returned on board, after hanging a rebel to a tree near the pier. At 8·45 A.M. arrived at Morant Bay, and took his Excellency to the "Wolverine;" received provisions and some refugees from shore, and left at 1·30 P.M. for Port Morant, where we anchored at 4 P.M.; passed Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" in the offing; communicated with the shore, and found nobody there; up anchor and went alongside Bowden Wharf, and embarked between 100 and 150 refugees, in a tremendous thunderstorm; "Wolverine" arrived in the middle of it, so I anchored under her stern for the night by Captain De Horsey's orders, and was supplied by him with hot tea and comforts for the women and children, who were half naked, wet through, and starving. At 5 A.M. next morning weighed and proceeded to Kingston, disembarked everybody at Cooper's Wharf; all well. Returned immediately to Port Royal, coaled, watered, provisioned, and left the same evening at 10 P.M., and arrived at Morant Bay at 6 A.M. on Monday the 16th, and remained there until Wednesday the 18th, when we weighed at 11 A.M., and proceeded to Kingston with his Excellency the Governor's despatches.

(Signed) H. BRAND, *Lieutenant in command.*

Inclosure 33 in No. 1.

List of Killed and Wounded in the recent Disturbances in St. Thomas-in-the-East, October 12, 1865.

Volunteers Killed.—Captain Hitchins; 1st Lieutenant Hall; 2nd Lieutenant Reed; Corporal Harrison; Corporal Gilfoy; many others killed or burned, names unknown.

Wounded.—Sergeant Harrison (severely); Private Rutty (since dead); Private Conri (since dead); Private Good; Private Ross; Private McContie; Private Williams.

Civilians Killed.—Baron Ketelhodt (Custos, St. Thomas in the East); Rev. Victor Herschell; Mr. Walton, J.P.; Mr. Arthur Cook, J.P.; Mr. A. B. Cooke; Mr. McCormack (aged man and cripple); Mr. C. Price; Mr. A. Brown; Police Inspector Alberga.

Civilians Wounded.—The Hon. W. P. Georges (J.P. and Custos of St. David); D. MacPherson (Coroner, since dead); Arthur Warnington, J.P. (sword cut); Brookes Cooke, Her Majesty's Customs; Mr. Grey (Vestryman); Wm. McIntosh; Mr. Bowen, J.P.; Wm. Mitchell; James Williams; Mr. MacPherson (since dead); Mr. A. Lewis; Mr. C. Alberga; Mr. J. W. Jackson.

Civilians Killed, continued.—Augustus Hire; Mark Douglas (reported).

Inclosure 34 in No. 1.

Copy of a Letter taken at a House at Stoney Gut.

MR. GRAHAM and other gentlemen, it is time now for us to help ourselves. Skin for skin, the iron bars is now broken in this parish, the white people send a proclama tion to the Governor to make war against us, which we all must put our shoulder to the wheels and pull together. The Maroons sent the proclamation to us to meet them at Hayfield at once without delay, that they will put us in a way how to act. Every one of you must leave your house, takes your guns, who don't have guns take your cutlasses down at once. Come over to "Stony Gut" that we might march over to meet the Maroons at once without delay. Blow your shells, roal your drums, house to house take out every man, march them down to Stoney Gut, any that you find in the way takes them down, with there arms; war is at us, my black skin war is at hand from to-day to to-morrow. Every black man must turn at once, for the oppression is too great, the white people are now cleaning up they guns for us, which we must prepare to meet them too. Chear men, chear, in heart we looking for you a part of the night or before daybreak.

We are, &c.

(Signed) PAUL BOGLE.
J. G. MC LARREN.
B. CLARKE.
P. CAMERON.

Get a bearer to send us a answer to this, for they determine to make us a slave again. When you do come to "Stoney Gut" or Hayfield blow your shells and tell what place you is from first before entired.

(Signed) E. K. BAILEY.

Inclosure 35 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, Kingston, October* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of your Excellency, copy of a despatch received at noon this day from Brigadier-General Nelson, with proceedings of Court-martial on G. W. Gordon, and other documents, which, having perused, may I request your Excellency will return to me with as little delay as possible?

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 36 in No. 1.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 21, 1865, 8 P.M.

AFTER six hours' search into the documents connected with the case of G. W. Gordon, I came to the conclusion that I had sufficient evidence to warrant my directing his trial.

I prepared a draft charge and précis of evidence for the court.

It assembled about 2 P.M. this day, closed its proceedings after daylight; the President having transmitted them, I carefully perused them.

The sentence was "death."

I considered it my duty fully to approve and confirm. To-morrow being Sunday, and there existing no military reason why the sentence should not be deferred, I have preferred to delay its execution till Monday morning next at 8 o'clock.

Had it been necessary to carry it out on the Sabbath I should not have hesitated.

I enclose the whole of the proceedings of the Court for your information, as you may desire to see what evidence led to the conviction of so great a traitor.

I have not furnished any report of the Court to his Excellency the Governor, because as his Excellency is now at Kingston, I apprehend all my reports should be made through yourself, my immediate commanding officer.

I have not copies of any documents herewith transmitted, and therefore hope hereafter to be allowed to make them.

I have directed Her Majesty's gun-boat "Onyx" to convey these important papers, and she leaves at daybreak to-morrow, Sunday.

Hoping as heretofore to gain your approval, I have, &c.

(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 37 in No. 1.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated to day, transmitting for my information copy of a despatch received at noon this day from Brigadier-General Nelson with proceedings of a Court-martial on G. W. Gordon, and other documents which you request me after perusal to return to you with as little delay as possible.

I have duly read the papers referred to, and I fully concur in the justice of the sentence, and in the policy of carrying it into effect.

There can be little doubt, I think, that whatever Mr. Gordon's intentions may have been it is entirely due to his agitation, bad advice, and seditious language amongst the peasantry of this colony that the rebellion broke out, and the massacre of so many gentlemen and the destruction of so much property ensued.

It will be remembered also by your Excellency that Colonel Hobbs, commanding another force in the field, has reported that he had sufficient evidence to justify the execution of Mr. Gordon.

This latter evidence too is quite unconnected with that adduced before the Court-martial, and has not been under consideration at all.

I believe that were condign punishment to fall only on the ignorant people who have been misled into rebellion, and the educated coloured man who led to that rebellion to escape, a very unfortunate impression would be produced upon the public mind, which in the present state of this colony might lead to very serious results. It is only by making it plain to the entire population that the guilty agitator and user of seditious language will meet the same punishment as the uneducated tools whom he misleads, that we can hope to check and put down the spirit of disloyalty and disaffection already so rife in the land, and which may at any moment occasion in other parishes outrages similar to those which have recently occurred in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I received your Excellency's letter at 4·30 P.M., and I return the documents contained in it without delay, as requested.

I have, &c.

(Signed E. EYRE.

Inclosure 38 in No. 1.

The Hon. H. Westmorland to Governor Eyre.

My dear Sir, *Kingston, October* 19, 1865, 7 A.M.

I RECEIVED last night late your letter of yesterday, and am glad to hear all is well.

Everything is quiet here, and people seem satisfied of perfect security. We arrested Kelly Smith and Goldson this morning, on an affidavit made that they were constantly in communication with G. W. G. at the "Watchman" office. We are also ordering certain Haytians to quit the country on the 25th (not Soulouque), as we find they are in communication with Kelly Smith. There is still a good deal of excitement in various parts of the country, but I apprehend no rising.

I quite agree with your Excellency as to the amnesty if it excepts those who have robbed as well as murdered, but it may be advisable to delay it till we have more troops.

In haste, &c.

(Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

Inclosure 39 in No. 1.

The Hon. W. Hosack to Governor Eyre.

Kingston, October 19, 1865.

IT is only a week yesterday since the rebellion broke out. In that time not less than thirty persons have been murdered.

There has not been time yet to develop the feeling of the population. It therefore seems to me that an amnesty, or general pardon, even with exceptions, is premature just yet.

(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

Memorandum by the Governor on the Letter of Mr. Westmorland and Minute of Mr. Hosack dated October 19, 1865.

The remarks made by the Committee in reference to an amnesty originated in my stating in a note, from the scene of the disturbances, that I thought the rebellion was so far checked and under control that in a very short time an amnesty might be proclaimed to all except actual murderers, who came in and submitted themselves to the Queen's authority. There was no intention or proposal to proclaim an amnesty at once.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 40 in No. 1.

The Hon. L. Mackinnon to Governor Eyre.

My dear Sir, *Old Harbour, October* 21, 1865.

I WAS glad to hear of your safe arrival in town yesterday. Under God we have to thank you and the energy and ability you have displayed, that we have not had to fight for our lives. Vere has been in a very unsafe state for some time, but I think they will be careful now; but the inhabitants who are loyal have earnestly desired some protection. The General, upon whom I waited with a requisition from the magistrates, &c., for aid, promised to send forty soldiers round to Carlisle Bay, and one hundred smooth bores; and with a little time to organise a volunteer force, all would be well.

I forward some affidavits from Vere in case your Excellency should desire to take any action on them; but without the soldiers, who should be there to-day, it would be unsafe to make any arrest.

With every good wish, &c.

(Signed) LOUIS MACKINNON.

Inclosure 41 in No. 1.

The Provost-Marshal to the Secretary to the Executive Committee.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for his Excellency the Governor's information, that all is quiet—nearly every rebel has been seized.

I have, besides what have been disposed of, 260 prisoners. G. W. Gordon has been tried; his sentence not promulgated. He is in charge of the police.

The maroons and police go out quietly, and take any bad character. I have just got Mr. Cooke's murderer. Paul Bogle is hiding among the bushes at John's Town, near here. He can get no assistance or food, and will either be shot among others or brought in.

You need not, I submit, send here any more prisoners unless ordered, as I have more than I can look after.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. E. RAMSEY.

Inclosure 42 in No. 1.

The Hon. W. Hosack to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Kingston, October* 19, 1865.

MESSRS. KELLY SMITH, Goldson, and Vaz, editor of the "Watchman," were taken into custody this morning at 5 A.M. without resistance, and carried to camp.

I was unwilling to consent to this step until the General said he did not object to it.

I am of opinion that the Haytians should also have been taken into custody and deported.

A great rebellion is now going on in Hayti, as your Excellency is aware.

They have had notice to quit the island on or before the 25th instant.

Rebellion is a hydra-headed monster on which heads often grow as fast as they are cut off.

Kingston is now quiet and well guarded.

The step taken this morning would have been dangerous last week, in my judgment.

The promptness of your Excellency and the troops is rapidly restoring confidence. Kingston, however, is still the point to which families are flying from all parts.

Paul Bogle is said to be in custody. I have doubts about it.

Every man connected with the conduct of affairs is doing his utmost.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

P.S.—I inclose a memorandum as to the amnesty.

W. H.

Inclosure 43 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Kingston, October* 21, 1865.

IN reply to your letter dated 21st October, 1865, I herewith forward a return of the relative strength of each post occupied by the military under my command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 44 in No. 1.

RELATIVE Strength of the various Posts occupied by the Military.

Stations.	Officers.	Men.	Stations.	Officers.	Men.
Kingston	1	80	Buff Bay	1	50
Up Park Camp	3	150	Moncklands	6	110
Rock Fort	..	21	St. Thomas in the East ..	Brigadier Nelson	340
Spanish Town	1	80			
Linstead	1	20	Port Royal	2	40
Vere	1	42	Fort Augusta	..	5
Newcastle	4	120	Apostles' Battery	..	5

Inclosure 45 in No. 1.

Major.General Jackson to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Mahogany Vale, Friday, October* 13, 1865.

EN route this morning to Newcastle to call on the officer there commanding for troops, I met a noble detachment of Her Majesty's 6th Royal Regiment, and then received your Excellency's letter. I humbly tender to your Excelleney the cordial thanks of the gentry of Port Royal and St. David's for the prompt despatch of troops.

Last night I was *en route* to wait on your Excellency, but learnt you were absent from Flamstead.

The insurrection is rapidly increasing, and I have, with advice of my officers, despatched an express calling on the officer commanding at Newcastle to send to Mahogany Vale 100 rank and file to join Captain Field.

There being no time to refer to your Excellency on such a momentous emergency, I have declared martial law in the mountains of Port Royal, St. David's, and St. Thomas-in-the-East, and hope the same will meet with your Excellency's approval.

The rebels are making such rapid strides, I march in the course of an hour to meet them, and your Excellency may depend upon Her Majesty's subjects being protected. Whilst I am alive there shall be no repetition of an East Indian mutiny and massacre.

I have quartered the troops to the perfect satisfaction of officers and men.

I beg your Excellency to send us a good supply of ammunition and rockets.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FORBES JACKSON.

P.S.—A serious number of murders of white and coloured population is hourl expected.

F. J.

Inclosure 46 in No. 1.

Placard posted about St. Thomas-in-the-East.

PEOPLE of St. Thomas-in-the-East and St. Ann's, be up and doing: you have too long been ground down by an overbearing and oppressive foreigner; you have been taxed for and robbed of the small-pox money by the Custos, and the Rector, and Victor Herschell.

The above is the tenour of a placard I found stuck on a cotton-tree on the main road leading to Stanton Estate, opposite William Chisholm's house, with other libellous and seditious sentiments, on the 11th August, 1865.

Morant Bay, October 16, 1865.

(Signed) A. E K. MOODIE.

Inclosure 47 in No. 1.

Mr. Guscott, J. P., to the Hon. William Hosack, Custos, St. George.

Sir, *Buff Bay, October* 15, 1865.

I HAVE just received the enclosed document from W. G. Ramsay, Esq., overseer of Spring Garden Estate. It was picked up at 6 o'clock this morning in front of the

overseer's house. I send it to you that you may use means to prevent destruction of life and property in the parish.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. GUSCOTT, *J. P.*

Walter Ramsay, you sure better take care of yourself how you paying money, you damn thief. I were having at you a long time, for in a short time there will be fire, and fire enough in Spring Garden Plantation, for when I come down I not going too burn task-house alone, for I going to burn from still-house, boiling-house, and your house and self too, for I means to cool all of you St. George's fellows, for all of the solders in the camp can't cool me, for my troops are solders too. As for Spring Garden low lighten and wood stalks places are in hell fire, but we will put our life against them. I will rite George Solomon to let him know that in a short time Spring Garden will be burn down, for Ramsay is a dam thief, and yes we will do it. If you don't believe we will just show signs for it, for we are kill and can't cure.

Inclosure 48 in No. 1.

Communication addressed to Mr. Lynch.

I SENT to inform all gentleman in town that if we do not get justices in this October Court that we will burn down the town; and we have 1,500 man consent to raise a riot at the Court-house October the 23rd of this month, and Monday we looking out to see what trial will be, then we will commence. Lif for lif will be taken that day at the Court-house, for we do not fare, and that days of October, for we is well armidid with cutlass and gun appear and that day.

Beside oman to helpe us 400 I sent to tell Francis Linch he better mind himself.

October him best to setchonon whare him is, for he is a mudder to the people; but if he no what I no, that sum of the bad will be about thare to see what gone to be down in at that Courts-house, for the good will suffer for the bad that day.

Powder we have plenty as much as to kill hold town.

(No name.)

Inclosure 49 in No. 1.

Communication addressed to the Custos of Kingston.

BEWARE of what you are about, beware, beware, if the hair of the head of one of those that are taken up be singed. I'll be the demagogue, and your life won't be worth a biscuit. Kelly Smith, Joseph Goldson, and Vaz, what are they to do with the riot?

Kingston is quiet, tranquil; do you want a wholesale slaughter, conflagration, rapine, plunder, and wholesale destruction? If a stripe be put on on Kelly Smith and Vaz you can tell the Governor that from him downwards shall be shot like a fowl, except he is going to walk or ride with a strong body guard. He ought to be shot long ago, the damn old scamp. Hell and scissors, if those men are flogged Kingston will be fired from east to west. Beware Custos; beware Custos, mind they don't make a custard of you. Fire, fire, fire, fire, fire, fire, fire. It is true that these men are to hold their Underhill Conventional Meetings, but men like Kelly Smith, Vaz, Roach, Goldson, Harry, are not negroes of a rebellious character, nor would they excite or advise ignorant men like the lower orders of St. Thomas-ye-east barbarians to commit such barbarous and cruel deeds. They have no part or lot in the matter. You as a Custos, and a very unpopular one, you better beware or else you will be shot like a dog. Take care if these black men, who are keeping themselves respectably, be disgraced. Your blood will not be sufficient to atonement for them, they have done nothing worthy of chastisement. Revenge. Take care what you are about, take care.

Inclosure 50 in No. 1.

The Custos of Clarendon to the Hon. E. Jordon.

Sir, *Court-House, Chapelton, October* 21, 1865.

I HAD the honour of addressing you yesterday, representing the people in this parish as quiet and orderly, since which I regret to say that an attempt to burn down the Court-house has been discovered.

The Clerk of the Vestry had been absent for some days, and only returned this morning. He informs me that he did not make the discovery till within the hour.

Kerosine oil had been thrown through an aperture in the shutter of his office with matches and other combustibles, and the building had been on fire.

With the exception of this act I have no reason to alter the opinion I gave yesterday, but I have thought it right to put the volunteer force under arms, and they will be quartered at the Court-house.

I beg to report that the police force are without ammunition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS LOWE.

Inclosure 51 in No. 1.

Captain Ross to the General.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 13, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the force under my command disembarked here at 9·30 A.M. this day, and will encamp near the police station at 12 o'clock. The civil authorities have been massacred, with one or two exceptions, by the natives of this, and the rioters are now reported to be destroying the plantations in the vicinity. The only Magistrate available is now on board Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," and unable to render the military any assistance. From twenty to thirty dead bodies are scattered near to the Court-house. I have directed their removal and interment. This measure is necessitated by the absence of the civil authorities.

I should consider it necessary to send forthwith a commissariat officer and march an additional force to be here stationed for a temporary period. The Volunteer force have in fact been destroyed, and the rifles sent for their use will until further orders remain on board the "Wolverine."

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. C. ROSS.

Inclosure 52 in No. 1.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

"*Wolverine*," *Morant Bay, October* 14, 1865, 9·5 A.M.

Sir, (*Finished at* 1·15 P.M.)

I HAVE the honour to report that I arrived at this place last evening at 6·30. I went on shore; found the troops per margin;* the senior officer, Lieutenant Oxley, R.N., in command. All had been quiet from the time of the arrival of Captain Ross' and Luke's detachments respectively.

From information received I found Captain Luke had marched on Port Morant, distant seven miles, at about 9 of the morning, sending a party of twenty-five (I don't remember of rank and file or files) on gun-boat to same place.

Having examined the position occupied by the troops here, I issued orders for a party of fifty men, Royal marines and blue jackets, to move at 4 this morning on Easington, a place on the high road from this to Kingston, sixteen miles hence, with orders to effect a junction with the fifty men of the 2nd Battalion 6th Regiment, which left Newcastle at 3·20 A.M. 13th instant, in pursuance of your orders, and having effected the same, the senior officer to bring the detachments united to this post.

I caused the detachment of fifty rank and file under Ensign Kelly to disembark and join the force here.

* Party of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," sailors and Marines; detachment of Royal Artillery, with 2 guns, under Lieutenants Jones and Nash.

In conjunction with his Excellency the Governor it was deemed expedient to proceed to Port Morant; for I desired to ascertain under what circumstances Captain Luke had moved.

Having embarked on Her Majesty's gun-boat Lieutenant Brand, we left at 9·30 P.M., and arrived at 12 midnight; found Captains Luke and Ross occupying a house, and that a detachment of twenty-five rank and file had been sent on to Bath, seven miles from Port Morant.

It would appear that Captain Luke had received information that the rebels were in force at Port Morant, and thus determined to advance. He did not meet with opposition; but the gun-boat on arrival saw a large body, about 800, chiefly women, and in the act of demolishing the house of Mr. Duffus. He fired three shells from his 32-pounder and dispersed the mob.

Captain Luke had issued orders for his Bath party to rejoin him at an early hour this morning.

His Excellency the Governor during the night obtained information that some of the chief rioters who had pillaged houses, &c., were living close by, and at his suggestion I at 2 A M. sent out a party and succeeded in apprehending three men.

At 5 A.M. I ordered Captain Luke to proceed to Bath and effect junction with his detachment; thence to move to Howley Hall and Golden Grove, in order to release European ladies and children there shut in. The distance from Port Morant to Bath is seven miles, thence to Golden Grove five; and having secured the ladies to return by the coast road, six miles, to Port Morant.

At 6 A.M. I ordered a drum-head Court-martial to be assembled for the trial of one of those taken up, and the Court sentenced him to "death."

I at once caused him to be hung on a tree, where the inhabitants would see his corpse.

His Excellency the Governor, myself, and other officers, with a serjeant's party of four retained as guard over the rebel, then embarked, and arrived at this port on gun-boat at 9 A.M. Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" came up immediately after.

The gun-boat returns for the detachment under Captain Luke, and which should be at Port Morant at 2 P.M. this day.

Intelligence is received by his Excellency the Governor rendering it necessary to throw troops into Port Antonio; I therefore proceed on Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" with the numbers as per margin as nearly as I can give;* one field-piece Royal Artillery.

Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" will sail at 3 P.M.

Morant Bay will be held by troops as stated in margin.†

I have taken on commissariat stores with Lieutenant Adcock, 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, in charge; Assistant-Surgeon Morris with medical stores. The troops here are under charge of a naval surgeon.

The trial of prisoners is now going on in the intended new church here, and the result, I apprehend, will be against the rebels, strong evidence being forthcoming.

I have now detailed so far as is needed the different arrangements made, and I can only hope my measures may meet with your approval.

In haste, to enable this being taken by gun-boat, I have, &c.

(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 53 in No. 1.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, "*Wolverine*," *Port Antonio, October* 15, 1865.

IN continuation of my letter dated and transmitted yesterday by the gun-boat "Onyx," I have now the honour to report, for your information, that, as I stated, I left Morant Bay at 4·30, taking with me the few men of a detachment of the 1st West India Regiment left by Captain Luke, and a light field-piece under Lieutenant Nash.

Previous to sailing I had submitted to me the sentences of Courts-martial held on

* Detachment of 2nd battalion 6th Royal Regiment, Captain Hole commanding; detachment of Royal Artillery, under Lieutenant Nash; detachment of 1st West India Regiment, under Captain Luke: 3 officers, 5 serjeants, 3 drummers, 193 rank and file.

† Detachment of 2nd battalion 6th Royal Regiment, Captain Field; detachment of 1st West India Regiment, 50 rank and file, under Ensign Kelly; 1 field-piece, with Royal Artillery detachment, Lieutenant Jones commanding; 100 Blue Jackets from Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine." On Her Majesty's ship returning, she embarks her men, and the troops abovenamed remain.

prisoners, and I confirmed the same—even to the extent of hanging one woman—notwithstanding the recommendation of Court for commutation to penal servitude; the atrocities perpetrated by the women on the occasion of massacre of Baron von Ketelhodt and others, communicated verbally to me by the Custos, Mr. Georges, decided me to confirm the sentence, and to ignore the recommendation.

The prisoners awaiting trial for the Morant rebellion are now lodged in jail here, and will to-morrow be arraigned before a Court.

At half-an-hour after leaving Bay of Morant a man-of-war steamer was seen holding a course for Port Royal; she was signalled to close, and proved to be Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."

Captain de Horsey commanding this ship was, on the receipt of despatches from his Excellency Governor Eyre, pleased to direct the ship to proceed to Port Royal for coal, thence to Barbados.

The Governor's despatch was to the officer administering the government there, and seeking reinforcements, and to the extent of 500 men.

Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" reached Port Morant at 6 P.M.; found the gun-boat which had been despatched from Morant Bay anchored.

The detachment under Captain Luke had performed the duty I informed you I had assigned to it, succeeding in picking up and escorting European families and others entitled to protection, to the number of eighty, or thereabouts, placing them on board the gun-boat, and remaining, in accordance with my orders, on shore.

The boats of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" embarked them about 8·30 P.M., and without a casualty.

Captain Luke reports that *en route* some of his detachment, under Captain Ross, detached a short distance on special service, were fired on, and some few of the rebels were shot.

I must inform you that Captain Luke carried out the duties assigned to him most admirably, and I have every reason to believe that his march through the country pointed out to him was conducive of great results so far as rescuing a large number of Europeans, &c., from the hands of the natives; and the manner in which the duty was performed reflects credit on Captains Luke and Ross, and Ensign Cullen, of whom, by his arrangements at Bath, Captain Luke speaks with satisfaction.

At daybreak this morning the gun-boat proceeded to Kingston with the families.

At 6 A.M. Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" got under weigh, arriving at this port at 10 A.M.

His Excellency the Governor and myself proceeded at once on board an American barque, where many families were, having been on board some forty-eight hours.

Having obtained all local information from Magistrates then on board, I directed the troops to disembark, took possession of the old barracks, and at 12·10 P.M. I sent off a detachment of men, 100 rank and file, under command of Captain Hole, to march on Manchioneal Bay, twenty-one miles hence, several families being there.* I issued orders for the party to proceed direct, and to return with as little delay as possible, leaving to Captain Hole such discretionary powers as would enable him to act on emergencies; for all information is so vague that I feel it right not to hamper an officer with orders which can be only given on uncertain data.

Several of this party I mounted on horses, so as to admit of rapid reconnoitering, and also to ease any man who might become foot-sore.†

I detached Staff Assistant-Surgeon Morris, with Captain Hole, having obtained the services of a civil practitioner for this place.

The remainder of the detachment is placed in barracks here.

I find a body of Maroons have come down last evening in order to protect this town, and the inhabitants have done what they could, having placed two guns in position near the church, in order to rake the main road from Manchioneal, whence the rebels were expected this evening to come for the purpose of attack.

I cannot gather positive information of numbers or localities of the insurgents, all have different accounts; but I must express the hope that I cannot but think the rapid movements of the troops have disconcerted the arrangements contemplated by the rebels. So far as I can yet form an opinion of the insurrection, I do trust that, as far as your troops are concerned, everything has been done, and it will be my anxious desire to render them of use to the Colony.

* 2nd battalion 6th Regiment: 2 officers, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 40 rank and file. 1st West India Regiment: 1 officer, 1 serjeant, 60 rank and file.

† I furnished Captain Hole with spare ammunition and cooked provisions (one day's).

To-morrow it will be necessary to have a Court-martial on prisoners, one of whom was taken with the trowsers of the late Mr. Hire on him.

The commissariat supplies and medical comforts are sufficient.

It is my intention to maintain the post of Morant Bay and Port Antonio; should it be ascertained that the rebels should move to the north-east side of the island, I would endeavour to establish a post at Annotto Bay; thus the three stations, Morant Bay, Port Antonio, and Annotto Bay, would form an equilateral triangle, and thus confine the insurrection to the county of Surry.

The Maroons seem in some force (400), and evince great loyalty, and their services will be of infinite value.

I have now detailed all matters, and shall, as opportunity offers, continue to do so, trusting for your approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 54 in No. 1.

Colonel Hobbs to Major-General O'Connor.

Moncklands, St. Thomas in the East, Jamaica,
October 15, 1865, 6 P.M.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour and the pleasure to report, for the information of your Excellency, that I marched to-day from Amtrolly St. David into the very heart and stronghold of the rebel country. We started at an early hour, having received most correct information of the locality of the insurgents. There can be no doubt, from what I have witnessed this day, that the rebellion is much more serious and more regularly organised than any we had at all expected; not only have the entire of the disaffected villages been vacated, but all over the country there are several mounds erected, and flags of various colours (preconcerted signals) are flying from all commanding positions, and it is my duty further to inform your Excellency that the class of people who are employed in this rebellion are not the poor, but a class of small landholders who are, in every sense of the word, freeholders. Finding this to be the case, and with the concurrence of three magistrates of experience, I set fire to the entire of the vacated houses. Two pistols were found, some impromptu drums, and numerous indications of meetings and assemblies in their chapels (native Baptists) and villages. The amount of horses, pigs, poultry, and comfortable clothing left behind by the people, as also the amount of coffee and provisions of all kinds, indicate the utmost amount of comfort on the part of the people composing the rebellion, who, unfortunately (aided by the natural advantages of the country, and numerous well-mounted scouts), gave notice of our presence and fled. We, however, secured six prisoners, whom I would have shot, but from the fact of their being unarmed; I now regret I did not do so, as they are no doubt rebels. We have, however, killed between fifteen and twenty of them at extraordinarily long distances, having discovered since several groups of them on the hill sides, and in trees. So arduous was our duty to-day, and so frequently had to cross and recross the numerous rivers in the neighbourhood, that the men have returned here so completely knocked up that I must rest to-morrow for two reasons: first, the men could not possibly march, and secondly, the rivers are so high that it is most dangerous work crossing them. If I can clearly see that it would be attended with success to make a further advance towards Morant Bay on Tuesday the 17th I shall do so. If not, I may probably fall back on my former position, Mahogany Vale, or even Newcastle, but I should be glad to have a dispatch from your Excellency to-morrow. The house in which I have made my head quarters (Mrs. Patterson) has been broken into and gutted by the rebels, and a pistol presented to her head, and her keys demanded, her husband having narrowly escaped. She and all others are most urgent and pressing for the troops remaining here, but I do not consider this is the proper duty for military; all the gentry and magistrates agree in thinking that our day's work will go far, very far, to break the neck of the meeting. I cannot speak too highly of Captain Field and all officers, non-commissioned officers and men, under my command. Their exertions and anxiety to do their duty is beyond all praise. We have abundant supplies, and our only wants now are boots and worsted socks, as we were so much in the water to-day that the soles are nearly off the men's boots.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. FRANCIS HOBBS.

Inclosure 55 in No. 1.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Head-Quarter House, Jamaica, October* 16, 1865.

THE grass has not grown under our feet here. All the assistance in the shape of advice that I could afford to your Executive Committee has been cheerfully given; but not perhaps to the extent I might have been able to do if a member of your Council, and holding the position my predecessors, Ashmore excepted, occupied. Our forces at Newcastle, Camp, and Kingston, very much weakened by the several detachments in the field under Brigadier-General Nelson, Colonel Hobbs, Captain Strachan, and rumours of disturbances in Kingston. I have taken measures to increase our troops. On Saturday I issued an order for all discharged soldiers to resort to Kingston Barracks to be enrolled, receiving the usual rate of pay and rations guaranteed by the Executive Committee. In less than two hours 70 assembled, and this morning we have 120 veterans, steady, well tried men with first-rate non-commissioned officers, and two field pieces ready for action. A powerful body well managed in Kingston, the special volunteers, has succeeded wonderfully; they are pouring in famous troops under Mr. A. de Cordova, thirty well mounted and in high spirits. The only volunteers that did not come forward Saturday were the Royal Engineers. A report yesterday the town was to be fired during church service. So I went in state, but a scanty congregation attended. I afterwards visited the several outposts, Rock Fort, and volunteers; this afternoon bodies, twenty-five each, told off to the districts all organized by Colonel Elkington. I had decided on the arrival of the "Urgent" to despatch her to Nassau, and bring down all the disposable men of 1st West India Regiment, and I sent a hired steamer, "Plantagenet," placed at my disposal by your Executive Committee, to Honduras for Colonel Hill and 2nd West India Regiment, but I learn from common rumour the "Urgent" proceeds to Barbadoes, to convey 3rd Buffs. The Commander has not reported himself personally or officially, but there is no time to stand on ceremony, so I have written to General Brooke to send on Colonel Whitfield, who served for years in Jamaica, and is thoroughly acquainted with it, and every man 2nd West India Regiment and as many of the 3rd Buffs as Brooke can spare. The fact is, European troops cannot stand rain, dews at night, constant exposure to noonday sun, marching through swamps, rum got some way, from perhaps the enemies' women. Don't pay any attention to "old women's" gossip that the black troops will not prove loyal; they never flinched in the field, and the handsomest plate we have, 1st West, a service presented by the Court of Policy, Demerara, after the negro insurrection. But to the point. The "Urgent" will bring a strong force in fourteen or sixteen days. The "Plantagenet" is hired by the Executive Committee, and when coaled leaves for Nassau, returning with all disposable 1st West, under Major McBean, say 16 officers, 200 rank and file and non-commissioned officers. I hope to have 600 to 700 black troops, without the 2nd West. The 6th can then return to Newcastle and Camp, or your hospital will be full. This is satisfactory. All members of your Council, Custos, clerks and officials pull together with me, and are resolved to do their best for you and for the colony. I enclose the despatch of Colonel Hobbs, which having perused hand over to Brigadier-General Nelson. I permitted the reporters to take extracts from Nelson's despatch. A very satisfactory move.

1·30, important information. Mr. Burk, Post-office, reports Mrs. Gough (Gough, Postmistress, Port Morant), can swear George [Gordon] was in constant communication with Bogle, and published a counter proclamation to yours. Queen's advice. A bundle came by post; she took out one and put it in a pigeon-hole in Post-Office. Search and you will find the same. The Custos has just been with me on the subject. I called and saw Mrs. Eyre yesterday, *en route* from Fort; her spirits were excellent, but must be kept up. A duplicate of this goes to Port Morant.

Wishing you every success, and without any doubt every chance of the rebellion being crushed, I am, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 56 in No. 1.

The Hon. H. Westmorland to Governor Eyre.

My dear Sir, *Kingston, October* 16, 1865, 12 *noon.*

I RECEIVED this morning your letter, dated Morant Bay, Saturday, and am indeed glad to learn all that you have done in conjunction with the military and naval authorities. By expresses which came to Mr. Hosack (to whom I have shown your Excellency's letter) and myself from St. George's and Metcalf, dated yesterday afternoon, we learn all was quiet in those parishes, so that I trust you will have headed the rebels at Port Antonio, and turned them east and southward. All is right in the mountains, and I learn a detachment is to march from Newcastle to-morrow morning to Buff Bay to support the troops you are with, in case of necessity. I believe, however, there will be none. The news this morning leads me to believe that the rebellion has received a check, and will now be overcome. By the French steamer "Caravelle," to sail this afternoon, the senior officer at Port Royal requests the British Consul at St. Jago de Cuba to telegraph to the Consul at Havana to send down all British ships on that station, and information has been given by the same opportunity to the Consul at Cape Hayti to send on here any vessels of war that may be cruizing about St. Domingo. We have chartered from Messrs. McDowell and Barclay, the steamer "Plantagenet," hourly expected from Honduras, and placed her under the orders of General O'Connor to send her where he thinks best for troops, and he has decided on ordering her to Nassau.

I understaud the senior naval officer has dispatched a schooner to Caymans to bring up Her Majesty's ship "Favour," supposed to be on that station.

The transport "Urgent" leaves for Barbados this afternoon, I understand by command of the Commodore.

The Executive Committee will direct payment of all just accounts certified by the Auditor, or otherwise, in accordance with your Excellency's suggestion. Dr. Hamilton arrived this morning, and is now with us in consultation. His ship got on shore at St. Domingo, which was the cause of his detention. He begs me to send his respects, and says he is too fatigued to write your Excellency to-day. I saw Mrs. Eyre twice yesterday, who was very anxious for news, not having then received your letter, which has no doubt allayed her anxiety.

I confidently hope that the rebellion is crushed by the prompt measures taken by all in authority, and that sad as all the terrible occurrences are that have happened, they will lead to the island being placed in a position of better security than it has been for some time past.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

P.S.—I ought not to omit mentioning the valuable and willing assistance we are receiving from Mr. Myers.

Inclosure 57 in No. 1.

Colonel Elkington to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Adjutant-General's Office, October* 16, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your information, that I have enrolled, armed, and equipped, according to instructions, the following special volunteers, viz., Cavalry 30, Infantry 150, and posted them in various positions for the security and protection of the city of Kingston; more are being hourly enrolled. These do not include the Volunteer Horse of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ELKINGTON.

Inclosure 58 in No. 1.

The Provost Marshal to Captain Luke.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 16, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that I sent off a policeman last night with a despatch.

Since writing the above, I have got in from various directions forty-seven prisoners. One, the murderer of Mr. Hire; one, the attempted ravisher of Mrs. ————, named McGregor; the remainder known rebels in arms.

I apprehended myself, hiding about, the correspondent of the "Watchman," Miles, also Chisholm, G. W. Gordon's Agent, opposite whose house the Keniss-tree is that had the placard. A copy of the placard I seized in the Post Office; I also personally apprehended William Grant, the founder of the Society of Friends.

I hope I may not be thought seeking for pecuniary benefit alone in claiming the rewards for information against G. W. Gordon at large, seizure of Chisholm, Grant, and Miles.

The troops are not going to move from here until, I understand, the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment come up.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. D. RAMSAY.

Inclosure 59 in No. 1.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Port Antonio, October* 16, 1865.

HIS Excellency the Governor is about to proceed immediately to Kingston, with the intent of returning to this place within a short time of his arrival. I am anxious to arm the maroons, who in this neighbourhood have their villages, and have shown by deeds their adherence to the Crown, and in whom more especially trust can be placed, as the Hon. Mr. Fyfe is their captain, and the reception he met with on landing was enthusiastic, thus giving me every assurance that by arming these men we obtain good aid.

Would you therefore be pleased to direct that the arms and ammunition specified in the margin* be embarked in Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" for conveyance to this port, when I will have the same issued. It is not desirable to send accoutrements, but the arms should be forwarded complete. If the number be in excess of what you may be pleased to sanction issue, then so many as can be spared, with proportion of ammunition, would be acceptable.

So far as reports have been received, all operations have been satisfactory, except that the force under Captain Field, acting under civil guidance of General Jackson, has not reached the point Easington, named by his Excellency the Governor.

The detachment moved before martial law was proclaimed; hence Captain Field is in no way responsible. It has disarranged my plans, and I have sent stringent orders to Captain Field, and hope he will receive them, and thus be relieved from supervision of a magistrate.

The Court-martial I named in my letter yesterday as ordered for this day, has sentenced twenty-five to death, and they have been hung.

Some confessed as having participated in the murder of Mr. Hire. The Attorney-General, Mr. Heslop, has been a member of the Court, holding a commission as captain of militia; thus the Court has received the benefit of his legal acumen, a point of considerable import when the proceedings hereafter may become the subject of discussion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 60 in No. 1.

Captain Luke to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir, *Port Antonio, October* 16, 1865.

I ARRIVED at Morant Bay on the morning of the 12th of October, 1865, with nine men of the Royal Artillery, under Lieutenant Nash, R.A., and 100 men of the 1st West India Regiment, and assumed command of the troops.

From information received from two or three gentlemen whose families were in the Plantain River Valley, I marched from Morant Bay, with Captain Ross and ninety rank

* 500 stand of arms, at the rate of 60 rounds per rifle.

and file, for Port Morant, having previously sent by Her Majesty's gun-boat "Onyx" to the same place, twenty-five rank and file under Ensign Cullen.

We were not molested on the road, but saw a great many of the rebels on the high land.

On arriving at Port Morant, I despatched Ensign Cullen with thirty-five men to Bath, with instructions to collect, if possible, all the people in the district who stood in danger of their lives, and the remainder of my party I kept in Port Morant that night.

Agreeably to your instructions I left Port Morant at daybreak on the 13th, with Captain Ross and eighty rank and file of the 1st West India Regiment, and marched on Bath, in the Plantain River district, distant about seven miles. When a mile distant from this village, received written information from Ensign Cullen that he was on the Rhine Estate, finding his force insufficient to hold an open village. I therefore remained but a short time in Bath, and marched to the Rhine Estate. I found several ladies and gentlemen from the neighbouring estates, who had been taking refuge in the hills for three or four nights, were collected there.

On passing through Bath I received information that a large party of the rebels had been there the previous evening robbing some of the stores, but the maroons coming down in some force from the hills saved the lives of many who would most probably have been sacrificed.

At the Rhine Estate I halted for three hours to enable refugees to come in. Leaving the Rhine Estate, I kept the eastern side of the river, with a view to give protection to the numerous people who had hitherto been unable to escape.

On passing the Plantain Garden River Estate, Captain Ross, who was in charge of the rear of the escort, ordered his men to fire on a number of the rebels who were on the hill, and threatening our party, and he informs me that several were killed.

Hearing that there were some wounded gentlemen laying in the Golden Grove Estate, I sent a mounted party to bring them in; but an alarm being raised of a large body of men on the estate, ordered off Captain Ross with sixty men.* He reports having found a large number of them on the estate with cutlasses, who, on seeing the troops, attempted to escape. Upwards of forty prisoners were made, and several of the rebels must have been shot.

The wounded gentlemen were brought in, and a number of refugees joined our party on arrival at Bowden Wharf. The refugees were placed on board Her Majesty's ship "Onyx," and the escort under my command with prisoners were taken on board Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine." I must beg particularly to bring to your notice the untiring exertion of Captain Ross; he cheerfully carried out my orders, and conduced by his conduct to the success of the expedition. Of Ensign Cullen I cannot speak too highly; though a young officer, he acted on every occasion that his services were required to my entire satisfaction, and displayed every quality of a good officer.

The conduct of the men was excellent; they showed in every way their detestation of the murders committed by the rebels, and I have no hesitation in saying that they are well adapted for the service now required of them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. F. LUKE.

Inclosure 61 in No. 1.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Port Antonio, October* 17, 1865, 1 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of despatch just received from Captain Hole, commanding detachment 2nd battalion 6th Regiment and 1st battalion West India Regiment, Manchioneal.

I yesterday, at 7 A.M., transmitted this officer orders to hold his position at Manchioneal if consistent with safety. Of course it will be held until further orders.

I shall immediately reinforce Captain Hole with twenty-five men of 1st West, mounted, as experience proves them to be capital horsemen; thus the party will rapidly reach. I shall instruct Captain Hole to feel his way towards Plantain Garden River with a mounted force, and I must leave much to the discretion of Captain Hole, of whose judgment and decision I entertain every confidence.

It is useless wasting words in expressions of regret at the divergence of Captain

* Horses being found, Captain Luke mounted some of his men.—A. N.

Field's party, but had orders been obeyed I should have been in a position to advance from Port Morant at the same time as the Manchioneal party, thus causing a junction of the two midway between the places, namely, at Plantain Garden River. Time, however, is of such infinite import that I do not feel inclined to wait till the strength of the force at Morant Bay would enable me to detach a party.

I have not the slightest doubt but the advance of Captain Hole on Plantain Garden River will prove most advantageous. His post at Manchioneal will be strongly garrisoned, there being, as per margin, the troops.*

I have ample force left to protect this place.

May I request the favour of your causing a supply of boots to be sent to this place, unless opportunity offers, of which you may be cognisant, of their being sent direct to Manchioneal. I shall obtain every available boot and shoe to be found here, and send them.

I would desire ammunition to be sent here, and spare nipples. The services of an armourer would be acceptable.

The communication between this and Manchioneal is open.

I cannot conclude without briefly saying that Captain Hole has in every way carried out my orders, and has proved himself not only an excellent officer, but what is still more valuable, an officer of sound sense and judgment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

P.S.—Supplies plentiful; no sickness.

A. A. N.

Inclosure 62 in No. 1.

Captain Hole to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir, *Machioneal, October* 17, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival at this place, and my having taken up my positon at Muirton, a house well adapted for defence, and which I found capable of holding all the troops under my command. I have the honour to state I can hold my position. On arriving yesterday at Long Bay I found the huts full of plunder; I had every house within a quarter of a mile of the road in which plunder was found fired, and in doing so upwards of twenty of the rebels were killed. After remaining about an hour I pushed on for Manchioneal. The rebels were firing some of the houses in front, and everywhere fled at our approach. A house called the cottage was in flames within a mile of us; every black man who did not stand at our approach to give an account of himself was shot. I arrived at Manchioneal about 12 noon, after a most fatiguing march. I saw houses (numerous) in the direction of Plantain Garden River in flames, in which direction I believe the rebels to have fled. I have the honour to add that I am of opinion that upwards of sixty rebels were killed yesterday by the troops under my command, among whom I hear there are some ringleaders, but their names I have not ascertained. After resting my men for about a couple of hours, I detached a party of twelve men to Betty's Hope, who succeeded in bringing in the Europeans, as per list attached.† I here directed every black inhabitant of Manchioneal to bring in any property that they may have in their possession belonging to people whose houses have been sacked, and as yet a little has been brought in. In the event of the blacks not doing so, I have informed them their houses will be razed to the ground. I intend to have destroyed all houses in which proved rebels have resided. I have the honour to state that I consider this position an important one to hold, it being in the heart of the rebellion, and from it parties could be detached in every direction. No fires are visible in any direction this morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. B. HOLE.

P.S.—I hear, but whether the report is to be relied on or not I cannot say, that a force of British troops is advancing from Morant Bay. Should it be deemed expedient for me to remain here any length of time, I request more ammunition may be sent me.

* 2nd battalion, 6th Regiment: 2 officers and 40 rank and file. 1st West India Regiment: 1 officer and 76 rank and file. Now about to go, 25 rank and file. Total, 3 officers and 141 men.
Memo:—More men of the 1st West India Regiment left with Captain Hole than I ordered.

† List of people rescued up to 6 A.M, 17th October, 1865:—Rev. Alfred Bourne; Miss Gibbs; Master Alfred Bourne; Master Herbert Bourne; Nurse Narmi Jacobs; Mrs. Warmington and baby; F. J. Fleming, Esq., J. P.; Miss Ellen Fleming; Miss Florence Fleming; Mrs. J. H. Banbury and baby; Miss Jane Hoyes; Miss Emma Westmoreland.

I also beg some boots may be sent, most of my men having walked the soles off their boots. I did not bring in any prisoners, but several are now in my hands, brought in since my arrival.

L. B. H.

Inclosure 63 in No. 1.

Mr. Kirkland to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Bath, October* 17, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that Bath and its neighbourhood are all right this morning. The constables on the various estates in the river district are performing their duty faithfully by preserving those estates from injury, recovering stolen property, and in taking prisoners of the parties found in possession of stolen property, or implicated in the various murders that have taken place.

The want of fire-arms prevents my sending out detachments of Maroons into the woods in search of the rebels. I am happy to say we have ammunition, but arms are required. I would recommend a supply of them being sent by a party of Maroons.

I forward this by two Moore Town Maroons in whom I have every confidence as having both will and power to execute the commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. P. KIRKLAND, *Senior Magistrate.*

Inclosure 64 in No. 1.

Captain Hole to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir. *Manchioneal, October* 19, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that the detachment 1st West Indian Regiment, consisting of twenty rank and file, reached this about 9 P.M. 17th instant, and that on the morning of the 18th instant I detained a party of that regiment about fifty strong* to proceed to an estate called Friendship, where I had been informed a body of the rebels had assembled, but owing to a mistake on the part of the guide they proceeded to Hayning and Jericho, and returned by way of Scots Run; they did not encounter any rebels, but found Hayning and Scots Run deserted: they fired the huts, after which they returned to this station.

Three men of the 1st West Indian Regiment† got separated from this party, and proceeded as far as the Plantain Garden River district, and from their reports I learn a great number of rebels are lurking in that district. They informed me on their return last evening that they had shot about ten rebels, three of whom were concerned in the murder of Mr. Hire. They brought back with them two cartloads of recovered property, some of which belonged to Mr. Hire (as in one of the pockets of a coat I discovered the two accompanying letters), and some to Mr. Shortridge (the same being discovered by the crest on two plated tea-pots).

They also brought in various other articles not yet identified. I consider that these three men have done good service.

I myself, with ten men of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, accompanied by Mr. Warmington and Mr. Coddington, proceeded in the early part of yesterday to burn down the fort and barrack settlements at this station, in which I was informed the rebels in the neighbourhood had resided. In almost every house plunder was discovered, chiefly articles of wearing apparel. These settlements were soon reduced to ruins.

I have further the honour to acquaint you that a great number of prisoners have been brought in by the constables of this district, all of whom seem to vie with one another to make amends for their late delinquencies by capturing all the people concerned in the rebellion. Amongst others, two ringleaders, Andrew Worgs and William Jones (an escaped prisoner from Morant Bay), both of whom were engaged in plundering and burning the Mulatto River Estate (Mr. Inchlewood's property), were brought in. I assembled a court-martial, and the two men were hung in the middle of this town on the afternoon of the 17th instant On the 18th instant two fresh ringleaders were caught, Smart Saply and Thomas Peters, both of whom, I believe, will be proved to have taken prominent parts in the murder of Mr. Hire; one of them acknowledges to have

* Under Ensign Cullen.

† Privates Beckley, Bates, and Moody.

taken part in the murder, but says he was induced to do so by the threats of the others; he also confesses to have taken a part in other murders. I have disposed of several other prisoners by inflicting corporal punishment, but still there remains a great number on my hands, and this is swelling every moment. I inclose a list of refugees who have come in under escort, in addition to the list I forwarded you in my last report. I have the honour to request that if a steamer is returning to Kingston, it may be directed to stop opposite this town, and send boats to take away all the ladies and gentlemen (who are desirous of leaving this), so that I may be left more free to make excursions in the vicinity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. B. HOLE.

P.S.—If some rum could be sent for the use of the troops it would be most acceptable; little or no liquor can now be obtained in this neighbourhood. Boots are also much required.

Refugees.—Rev. H. B. Harris, Mrs. Harris, four children, and three servants; Mr. Brodrick; Miss d'Ansigny; Mr. Sutton Scoltock, two children, and nurse; Mrs. Sinclair's nurse.

I cannot hear of any more being in the woods in the neighbourhood.

L. B. H.

Inclosure 65 in No. 1.

Mr. Warmington, J. P., and Lieutenant of Volunteers, to Captain Hole.

My dear Sir, *Muirton, Manchioneal, October* 18, 1865.

YOU are aware of the peculiar and distressing circumstances in which I have been placed by the riots and plunder of my late home. I am anxious to send my wife and child home by the mail two or three weeks hence, and in the meantime send them on to Kingston; and as Mr. Bourne will probably leave with his family also for England there will be no one to represent the Cotton Company's estates out here, unless I remain in the country some time longer, and which I wish to do if possible. As it will probably be long ere any estates work is resumed, it occurred to me that, if you thought I could be useful to you whilst stationed away from Newcastle, you might be inclined to use your interest and attach me to your Company as a supernumerary, to make myself generally useful in any way in my power. If this would not be very unusual or impossible to do, I should very much like it, as at present I do not know what to do. I am also desirous of expressing my sincere thanks to you for your kind and prompt assistance in rescuing and bringing to a place of safety my wife and child, who were in danger of their lives; and Mrs. Warmington had suffered the most intense and painful anxiety, now happily relieved by the safe protection of the troops under your command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR WARMINGTON.

Submitted and strongly recommended.

Mr. Warmington has been of the greatest assistance to me since leaving Port Antonio, and I am much indebted to him for his valuable services.

L. B. H.

Inclosure 66 in No. 1.

Lieutenant Oxley, R.N., to Colonel Hobbs.

Sir, *Stony Gut, October* 19, 1865, 8 A.M.

I ARRIVED here yesterday morning at daybreak. I found the rebels had completely deserted the place. There are none in the vicinity so far as I can ascertain.

There is no accommodation whatever here for troops, as I have destroyed the principal houses. The General is expected at Morant Bay to-day. I intended to have returned to Morant Bay this morning, and shall do so unless I receive orders to the contrary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. L. OXLEY

Our force—37 seamen, 27 marines, 9 Royal Artillery.

Inclosure 67 in No. 1.

Report of Lieutenant-Colonel Hobbs, 2nd Battalion 6th Royal Regiment.

Stony Gut, Paul Bogle's Chapel, The Heights, October 19, 1865, 9·30 A.M.

I HAVE reached Stony Gut from my head-quarters, Moncklands, having shot a number of rebels on the way.

Stony Gut I found vacated by the rebels, but occupied by a party of seamen, Marines and Artillery, who arrived here at daybreak yesterday.

The rebels have fled towards Somerset and Mount Lebanon. As this is close to me, and Paul Bogle supposed to be near Moncklands, I retire in that direction, bivouac where I can, and march early to-morrow as there is abundance of work cut out for me.

I have directed this rebellious settlement to be utterly destroyed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. FRANCIS HOBBS.

To Major-General O'Connor, C.B., or any Naval of Military Officer at Morant Bay, or the Governor.

Inclosure 68 in No. 1.

Lieutenant Oxley, R.N., to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir, *Stony Gut, October* 19, 1865, 10 A.M.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that I left Easington at 4 P.M. on the 17th, and proceeded to Morant Bay, where I arrived at 10·30 P.M. At 2 A.M. on the 18th I again marched and proceeded with a force of three officers and fifty-seven seamen, Lieutenant O'Connor and twenty-seven marines, and Lieutenant Jones and nine gunners Royal Artillery, to Stony Gut, where I arrived at daybreak. I found the village entirely deserted, and took up my quarters in the Baptist chapel. I have destroyed the principal houses, and shall leave for Morant Bay this evening, unless I receive orders to the contrary.

At 9·30 this morning a party of the 2nd Battalion 6th Regiment joined us under the command of Colonel Hobbs, who assumed command.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. L. OXLEY.

Inclosure 69 in No. 1.

Colonel Hobbs to Major-General O'Connor.

Jigger Foot Market, Blue Mountain Valley, nine miles in advance of Moncklands, October 19, 1865, *midnight.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to bring to the knowledge of your Excellency that I marched at half-past 11 P.M. last night for the rebel stronghold Stony Gut; to my regret I found that not only had the rebels been too cowardly to meet us, but that the honour of being the first troops there fell to the lot of the sailors, Artillery, &c., under Lieutenant Oxley. The march from Moncklands occupied nine hours under torrents of rain, and I found it most dangerous crossing the narrow river, which took the men above their waists. There was not a single officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier who was not literally wet through and through, and every article of their clothing, saddlery, &c., utterly destroyed; added to this the intense darkness of night made it a march never to be forgotten in the 6th Regiment. About daylight this morning in passing through this village or cross roads (where the rebels have destroyed everything), I found a number of special constables who had captured a number of prisoners from the rebel camp: finding their guilt clear, and being unable to either take or leave them, I had them all shot; the constables then hung them up on trees eleven in number; their countenances were all diabolical, and they never flinched the very slightest. From this we at once went to Stony Gut, and to be brief can only say that had the rebels been brave and met us there, not a man of the 6th Regiment would have returned to tell the tale, as this Gut or narrow defile is three miles long, and the men were up to their knees in sticky mud, at the bottom of which mud all horses' shoes and ammunition boots firmly imbedded.

The party from Morant Bay had an immense advantage in assaulting it from the other side; the place is so steep, muddy, and slippery that were it a matter of vital importance to bring a gun up to it by the path we assaulted it from, I should say it would take 500 men to do it. After partaking of some biscuits and rum in Bogle's Chapel, sending off his lamp as a trophy to his Excellency the Governor, and utterly destroying this vile and rebellious settlement, I returned with my jaded and foot-sore troops to this spot, where we bivouac for the night in another ecclesiastical building called the Jigger Foot Methodist Chapel. We have plenty to eat, and the few remaining white and coloured people treat us most kindly; their houses have all been wrecked, and pistols pointed at them. My men, who marched so gallantly, are at present sleeping in their wet clothes as I write this, and from being in the water so much are nearly all lame; and were it not for the amount of beef and rum I give them would have broken down long ago. I have not had one single man drunk since I left Newcastle. I hope however, if possible, to reach Moncklands to-morrow, knowing that the rebels are flying there, and knowing also the importance of its position, where I must rest for at least two or three days, as we have been marching twelve and fifteen hours a day all this week, and except foot sores have not a man sick.

I have in my possession the most conclusive proof of Mr. G. W. Gordon being a chief mover in this rebellion, and have sent an express to Morant Bay, requesting him to be sent to me (if there) for execution, and request you to give this publicity. Should he be elsewhere, I must not forget to tell you that I have Paul Bogle's valet for my guide, a little fellow of extraordinary intelligence; a light rope tied to the stirrup and a revolver now and then to his head causes us thoroughly to understand each other, and he knows every single rebel in the island by name and face, and has just been selecting the captains, colonels, and secretaries out of an immense gang of prisoners just come in here, whom I shall have to shoot to-morrow morning; one famous leader, and rejoicing in the honoured name of Arthur Wellington, is amongst them and three others.

Let me once more do an act of justice to one of the best officers in the British army, in requesting your most favourable consideration of Captain Field; he is everywhere, and the people of this island owe him more than they can ever repay. Also let me mention Lieutenant Rowarth, 6th, and Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Gibbs, whose zeal and energies never flag. Mr. Sawers and Mr. Lascelles also are here and never leave us. Having only had two hours' sleep in two days will, I hope, be my excuse for this disjointed despatch. If you can send me some sailors or Marines do so, as there is plenty to be done yet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. F. HOBBS.

Inclosure 70 in No. 1.

Mr. Ramsay to the Governor's Secretary.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October 23, 1865, 8·15 A.M.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that George William Gordon and seventeen rebels were hanged at the Court-house this morning at 7 o'clock by order of Major-General Nelson, commanding. I believe from what he stated that he was penitent. All are quiet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. D. RAMSAY, *Inspector of Police.*

I send a copy to Mr. Myers that his Excellency may get the earliest information.

No. 2.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 252.) (Answered No. 349, December 1, 1865, page 243.)
Sir, *King's House, October 23, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to bring under your notice a correspondence which I have had with General O'Connor, who has recently arrived to take the command of the troops on the Jamaica station.

The circumstances are briefly as follows:—

Late on the afternoon of the 14th October, whilst about to leave Morant Bay for Port Antonio, the steam troop-ship "Urgent" was signalised in sight making for Port Royal.

At my request Captain De Horsey signalled her to close, and then gave orders to her to go into Port Royal to coal and proceed without delay to Barbados to bring additional troops to Jamaica, for which I had written to the Governor of that Colony. These circumstances are narrated in my despatch No. 251 of the 20th instant.

Early on the morning of the 17th October I returned to Kingston, and on visiting General O'Connor was informed by him (whilst talking over the sending the "Urgent" to Barbados) that he had changed my intended arrangements, and had decided, upon the Executive Committee agreeing to hire a steamer, to recall the troops from British Honduras, and bring away 200 troops also from Nassau.

I informed him that I coincided in the latter step, if they could be spared, but that I did not think the troops ought to be taken away from British Honduras.

He also acquainted me that he had written to General Brooke at Barbados, stating what description of troops would in his opinion be most desirable for service in Jamaica.

No complaint or expression of dissatisfaction was at this time made.

About noon of the same day (17th October) I again left Kingston for the seat of the disturbances, and did not return again until the afternoon of the 20th, about 2 P.M.

I immediately called at General O'Connor's to inform him of the progress of events, but had not been long there before, to my great astonishment, he began to accuse me in a very bluff manner, and in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, of having transgressed my own authority as Governor and interfered with his as General, in sending the "Urgent" to Barbados for troops without first consulting him.

The correspondence enclosed refers to this occurrence, and I should be obliged by your conveying to me your opinion and instruction on the point raised for my future guidance, as well as by your moving the military authorities to communicate to General O'Connor the same views for his information.

General O'Connor's letter of the 21st October makes it necessary for me to add a few explanatory comments.

A very serious rebellion had broken out, and was rapidly spreading in the eastern part of the island, a considerable portion of the troops in the colony had been called into the field, and the entire force in Jamaica would barely be able to cope with the then existing rebellion and protect the principal towns of Kingston and Spanish Town.

If the rebellion broke out simultaneously in any other quarter, as there was every reason to fear might be the case, there would have been little hope of coping with it effectually, and it was clear that under any circumstances whatever a large augmentation of troops would be necessary in Jamaica for some time to come.

The sudden and unexpected appearance of the "Urgent" on the 14th October, enabled me at once to write off to Barbados for all the troops that could be spared.

I had no opportunity, if I had wished to do so, of consulting the General, who was in Kingston, or even of writing to him all. We were leaving Morant Bay late on a very stormy afternoon for a particular destination to pick up white troops, and look after the refugee ladies and children whom they had collected from the disturbed districts. I had barely time to write a hurried despatch to the Governor of Barbados, and even this had nearly caused us to miss our appointed rendezvous.

There could therefore be no want of consideration or courtesy towards General O'Connor in my not having written to him; certainly nothing could have been further from my intentions or thoughts.

General O'Connor says he was left in ignorance of the movements and destination of the "Urgent;" but this could not be so, for upon her arrival at Port Royal he would necessarily learn that she had been ordered to Barbados to bring troops. Three days later I was in Kingston, and repeated the information myself. Had I left my despatch open, as General O'Connor suggests I might have done, *for his opinion* (and I presume revision), I might have found all my plans for ensuring the security of the Colony upset by a substitution (as he states was his intention) of the sending to Nassau and British Honduras for troops, which I know cannot be spared from the latter Colony, and possibly may be inconveniently dispensed with for any length of time from the former; whereas Barbados by the return transmitted in your despatch, Confidential, of the 16th February, 1865, had then upwards of 1,200 men, and could, if the same complement is still kept up, easily and safely spare 300 or 400.

General O'Connor states that troops were to be poured in upon him "whether required or not, for whose reception and accommodation considerable preparations had to be made."

The Governor, I imagine, is the best judge of the number of troops required in a case of internal disturbance, and the fact that General O'Connor sent for 200 troops from Nassau, and was going to send for those from British Honduras, in addition to what I had applied for from Barbadoes, showed that he considered the emergency one which made additional troops necessary.

As to the preparation for their reception and accommodation, it was impossible they could arrive under fourteen days, and I have already shown that I myself communicated the fact of their being sent for within three days of the order being given.

But independently of this, as large a number of troops had been sent into the field as I had sent for, and their quarters would at once have been available, had it been required to establish them thus; but the real fact is, that the additional troops would in all probability be required for distant outposts, which could only be decided upon as the progress of events developed our true position better.

General O'Connor also states that time was lost, when every hour was of vital consequence, and a heavier expenditure incurred by sending the "Urgent" to Barbados instead of to Nassau.

This is a little inconsistent with his previous assertion, that they had been sent for "whether required or not."

But he has himself shown that the steamer "Plantagenet" was placed at his disposal by the Executive Committee to send to Nassau for troops. Both services could therefore go on at once, and it certainly was desirable that the largest ship should be sent on the longest voyage, and for the greatest number of men.

As to the additional expense it is clear that if the 200 troops from Nassau were not sufficient, as I maintain is the case, Barbados must be sent to after all, and of course the sooner the better. The safety, in fact almost the very possession of the island, depended upon the promptness and vigour displayed in crushing the first outbreak of rebellion, and in providing with the least possible delay for the protection of those parishes where a rising was apprehended, but had not yet taken place.

General O'Connor implies that I sent for European troops, who, he says, are not so enduring in a tropical climate as African soldiers.

The copy of my letter to the Governor of Barbados will show that I did not apply for European troops, but left it entirely to the Governor, on consultation with General Brooke, to send what they considered best suited to the service, and most easily spareable by the colony. I asked for 500 men, or as many as could be spared. The last Return I have seen of the troops stationed at Barbados is that given in your confidential circular of 16th Febrnary, 1865. There were then 468 black and 656 white troops in that colony, so that there was no absolute necessity in complying with my application to send any white troops at all, and Colonel Whitfield, a most experienced officer of African troops, was on the spot to afford the benefit of his experience and advice.

General O'Connor states that my orders ought to have been given through him, but the troops sought for were from a distinct and separate command with which he had nothing to do, and the application could only be made with propriety by the Governor of the colony requiring assistance to the Governor of the colony from which it was sought.

Within General O'Connor's own command it is my duty, and I have always most strictly adhered to it, to make my requisitions for troops directly to himself. I may go further, and add, that so far as it has been possible (considering that I have been chiefly absent at the scene of the disturbances, and away from Kingston, where General O'Connor remained), I have endeavoured to consult him as to the best arrangements to be made and the numbers and stations of the troops: though these latter points fall more particularly, and properly so, within the province of the Governor.

I have gone thus at length into the particulars of the question, because the point raised is a very important one, namely, the distinct demarkation of the respective duties of the Civil Governor and the Military Officer in command of Her Majesty's troops.

To my own mind the Colonial Regulations are clear and unmistakeable. That all dispositions of troops within the command are to be directed by the Governor, but carried out in their details by the senior military officer; but that if troops are required from another command, it is the business of the Governor and not of the military officer to apply for them.

Any other arrangement must necessarily lead to confusion. As long as no foreign war or outbreak exists, the Governor is charged with and responsible for the safety and security of the colony under him, so far as the means at his command for the purpose will enable him to provide therefor.

It is impossible the Governor can fulfil this charge and this responsibility properly

if there is to be a divided authority between himself and the senior military officer in command of the troops.

There is often an extreme jealousy and tenaciousness on the part of some military men with regard to Civil Governors being called upon to direct the military arrangements of a colony, and where this exists it is clear that the public interests must suffer unless the respective duties and powers of each are most distinctly enunciated. No harmonious intercourse can possibly be kept up if one officer is to tell the other in a brusque manner, and in the presence of other persons, as General O'Connor did me, that the powers of the other had been exceeded, and his own improperly interfered with.

But not only did General O'Connor take this action with regard to me, he expressed the same opinions and views to others, and that, too, before he had even spoken to me on the subject at all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor, C.B.

Sir, *King's House, Spanish Town, October* 21, 1865.

AT an interview which I had with you yesterday, your Excellency was pleased to assert, in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, that in sending Her Majesty's troop ship "Urgent" to Barbados for additional troops for this colony I had exceeded my authority as Governor, and interfered with that of yourself as General commanding Her Majesty's troops in the Jamaica command.

As I then informed you in reply, I considered myself acting strictly within my own powers, but that under no circumstances whatever had I or could I have the slightest wish or intention either to usurp your powers or to act with any want of courtesy towards you.

I have received prompt and cordial co-operation from you from the commencement of this unfortunate outbreak up to the present time, and I should be most unwilling that any misapprehension should now arise to disturb that good understanding between us which is so essential to the public interests.

My view of our relative positions with regard to military arrangements is a very simple one, and it is distinctly enunciated in the following instructions to Governors, namely, "It is his duty (the Governor's), except in the case of invasion, or assault by a foreign enemy, to issue to the officer in command of Her Majesty's forces within the colony orders for the march and distribution of troops, for the formation and march of detachments and escorts, and generally for such military service as the safety and welfare of the colony may appear to him to require, but that all the military details regarding such distribution and the manner in which the detachments shall be formed and composed rest with the military officer, who is responsible that they are conformable in every respect to the instructions issued to him by the Governor."

I am not aware that I have in the least degree deviated from these instructions, certainly I had no intention of doing so; but as your Excellency entertains a different view, and has expressed considerable dissatisfaction at such supposed deviation, I have to request you will be good enough to furnish me with a statement of the particulars in which you think I have exceeded my proper sphere of action in order that I may at once submit the same to competent authority, and that any similar mistake or misunderstanding may be obviated in future.

It is essential to a cordial co-operation between the chief civil and military authority in public matters, as well as to an harmonious intercourse in private, that there should be no doubtful or debatable ground as to the relative position or duties of each.

I can only say for myself that it is my earnest desire to preserve the most friendly and cordial intercourse with your Excellency both publicly and privately.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, Kingston, October* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's letter of this day's date, referring to our interview yesterday, when "I asserted in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, that in sending Her Majesty's troop ship 'Urgent' to Barbados for additional troops for this Colony, you had exceeded your authority as Governor, and interfered with that of myself as General commanding Her Majesty's troops in the Jamaica command."

It seems to me to have escaped your Excellency's recollection that I added "without communicating with or consulting me."

For either of these there was ample time, as the "Urgent" anchored at Port Royal early on Sunday morning, 15th instant, to coal for the voyage, and did not depart until the following evening.

Your Excellency's despatch might have been left open for my perusal and opinion, considering that I was the principal person concerned; but on the contrary, I was permitted to remain in total ignorance of the movements and destination of the ship sent expressly here to convey troops under my immediate command, and without any reference to me, my plans and views, additional troops were to be poured in upon me, whether required or not, for whose reception and accommodation considerable preparations had to be made.

I entirely coincide in your Excellency's views "of our relative positions with regard to military arrangements," distinctly laid down in Her Majesty's and the Colonial regulations, "Instructions for officers administering the Government of Colonies and settlements abroad."

Permit me to observe that had you adhered to the paragraph of the instructions quoted in your letter, and "issued to the officer in command of Her Majesty's forces within the Colony, orders for the marching and distribution of them, or respecting any other military service, as the safety or welfare of the Colony may render necessary," and favoured me, by the Commander of the "Urgent," with your orders, leaving to the "officer in command of Her Majesty's forces to carry all such matters into execution," who is responsible, not as your Excellency states, "that they are conformable in every respect to the instructions issued to him by the Governor;" but "he alone will be responsible to Her Majesty for the prompt and efficient performance of any such service in its details;"—had you adopted this course, I would have carried into effect an arrangement already made with Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, Acting Deputy Adjutant-General, for sending the "Urgent" (hourly expected) direct to Nassau for all the available officers and men, with the head-quarters of the 1st West India Regiment, and the mail-steamer "Plantagenet" hired, and placed at my disposal by your Executive Committee, who consulted me on this occasion and in every other difficulty during your absence, to Honduras for Lieutenant-Colonel Hill, an officer of long and well-tried service in African warfare, and the 2nd West India Regiment—a prompt measure, saving time and expenditure every day, nay, hour of the former, of vital consequence in the present precarious aspect of affairs, and not despatched the "Urgent" to a distant and distinct command, Barbados, to fetch from thence European troops, which very nearly forty years of tropical service convinces me are not so enduring as African soldiers, whose constitutions, nature, and habits calculate them to suffer less than Europeans when exposed to the sun, night dews, and marches such as Colonel Hobbs has made with the 2nd Battalion 6th Royals for thirteen hours under drenching rain.

The excitement over and the field abandoned, our hospitals may be filled with sick soldiers, many of them to be sent home in a few weeks as invalids.

Such was and is my reason for considering that you ought not to have sent the "Urgent" to Barbados, or indeed to any other station, without communicating or consulting with me. Your frank acknowledgment of my prompt and cordial co-operation, from the commencement of this unfortunate outbreak up to the present time, is nothing more nor less than what I am entitled to expect from your candour, as a Governor and a gentleman, and no misapprehension now or hereafter can disturb that good understanding between us, or prevent me performing my duty for the public interests.

I am as fully aware as your Excellency that it is essential to a cordial co-operation between the chief civil and military authorities in public matters that "there should be no doubtful or debatable ground as to the relative position or duties of each," and I

reciprocate your "earnest desire to preserve the utmost friendly intercourse" with your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

Governor Eyre to the Governor of Barbados.

Sir, *"Wolverine," off Morant Bay, October* 14, 1865, 4 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that an insurrectionary outbreak of the most serious and alarming kind has taken place in this island. The barbarous massacre of a large number of gentlemen, being ministers of religion, magistrates, proprietors of properties, or persons otherwise interested in or connected with estates in this island, has taken place; a large amount of property has been destroyed; numerous estates in high cultivation have had to be left entirely abandoned; a large portion of the south-eastern, eastern, and north-eastern portion of the Colony has been put under martial law; and general apprehension and alarm exist lest the movement extend to the entire island and the insurrection become a general one.

In this emergency a large portion of the troops stationed in this Colony have been rapidly withdrawn from the head-quarters and distributed at various points in the disturbed districts. I have myself been for the last two days personally engaged in directing and superintending, in conjunction with Brigadier-General Nelson, these movements; and I am now on board Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" *en route* to Port Antonio, a place on the north side of the island, to establish another military post.

The whole of the troops in this Colony do not exceed above 1,000 (exclusive of those at Honduras and Bahamas); and I cannot conceal from myself that such a number is utterly inadequate to suppress the insurrection in the districts where it now exists, and would not supply any troops whatever for the assistance or defence of other portions of the Colony should the outbreak, as is feared may be the case, unhappily extend to them. I have therefore most urgently to solicit your Excellency to direct that, if possible, 500 troops, or as many as you can spare, may be despatched to our assistance with as little delay as possible, in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," sent herewith for the purpose.

It would be very desirable that the troops should be accompanied by as many medical officers as possible, and should include any artillerymen and light field-pieces that can be spared.

It may be as well to bring to your Excellency's notice, as an additional reason for this urgency, the immense area of Jamaica, extending about 150 miles in length and from 50 to 60 in breadth, and the physical features of which are of such a nature as at once to prevent a rapid intercommunication with distant points, and render exceedingly difficult all inland movements of troops, whilst they afford both shelter and supplies of food to the insurgents in fertile fastnesses of the mountains, where a large portion of the peasantry reside.

There is no intelligible cause for this sad outbreak, and nothing but the most prompt and vigorous measures will put it down.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 3.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 17.)

(No. 253.) (Answered No. 353, December 1, 1865, page 244.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 23, 1865.

IN dealing with the rebellion recently broken out, and still existing in Jamaica, it became manifest that the movement has been long in progress, that it had been stirred up and stimulated by the indiscreet acts, language, or writings of persons of education and in a better sphere of life, as well as by political demagogues and agitators, who have used the most violent and seditious language.

2. Chief amongst the former class I regret to say are the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society in England, Dr. Underhill, and some of the Baptist ministers in Jamaica, who have endorsed and enlarged upon his views and statements.

3. Under these circumstances, and bearing in mind the imminent jeopardy in which the whole colony has been and still is placed by their proceedings, I deemed it right, with the approval of my Executive Committee, to examine some of the letters arriving by the last English mail for certain Baptist Ministers.

I inclose one of these from Dr. Underhill to the Rev. J. Henderson, of Montego Bay, for your information.

4. In this letter occurs the following passage :—

"In Jamaica the people seem to be overwhelmed with discouragement, and I fear that they are giving up in despair their long struggle with injustice and fraud."

5. If such language as this is addressed by the Representative of the Baptist Missionary Society at home to its ministers out here, these ministers will naturally endeavour to give effect to the suggestion, by stimulating the people "not to give up the struggle," whilst they will, no doubt, re-echo and enlarge upon the alleged "injustice and fraud," as some of them have already done at the meeting at Montego Bay and elsewhere.

6. The result is obvious, and as instanced in the massacre at Morant Bay, in the outbreak of rebellion through an extensive tract of country, and in the disaffection and disloyalty which exist in so many parishes, and make it a question whether the rebellion may not become general through the entire island.

7. If nothing can be done to stop at home the pernicious writings such as I refer to, and if Jamaica is to be retained at all, it will be necessary to pass a law in the colony authorizing the deportation of all persons who leaving their proper sphere of action as ministers of religion, become political demagogues and dangerous agitators.

8. I append some extracts from Lord Metcalfe's writings, and from his life by Kaye, showing that this is not the first occasion in which some of the Baptist ministers have wrought the most serious evils in this colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Dr. Underhill to the Rev. J. E. Henderson.

My dear Brother, *London, September* 29, 1865.

I CANNOT make out how it is that the receipt for the African moneys has not reached you. It is regularly entered in our books, and the counterpart of the receipt is in its proper place. The "Herald," too, has been regularly sent, and inquiries are being made about its delay.

With regard to your letters, no reply has been given, simply because none could be given; and even now I am unable to say when a definite answer can be sent. The fact is, your case is one of many, all of which were remittted to a Sub-Committee for consideration. Their deliberations issued in a report submitted to the last quarterly meeting, the gist of which was to make some regular allowance to certain stations, or rather the brethren occupying them. This plan was thought too serious to be hastily decided on, and its discussion was deferred to our meeting in October, now shortly to take place at Bradford. I must not, however, conceal from you my fears that it (the report that is) will not be adopted. We can scarcely see our way to carry on our present work, and to add some 500*l.* or 600*l.* a-year to our expenditure, with a certain difficulty of keeping to this, is a very anxious matter. We can scarcely make a second appeal for our Distress Fund, which is well-nigh exhausted. And even this mail adds to our perplexities. You know what Brother Hewett proposes to do, aud other brethren write in the same difficult as yourself. I confess I feel sorely troubled about it and about Jamaica altogether. For if I could say to the Committee that I thought any help now rendered would be merely temporary, I should have hope of securing aid. But I cannot. I see scarcely any hope of permanent improvement in the condition of the Island, and without this for the Committee to do anything will be certain to entail for years to come a practical resumption of the Mission.

I need not say how deeply I sympathise with you in the trials you have to endure. Would that I could alleviate or remove them. But I feel almost as despairing as yourself of any material or permanent help. We seem to have no other resort than the Throne of Grace, and to find there the wisdom and the aid which, humanly speaking, seem nowhere to be found.

In Jamaica the people seem to be overwhelmed with discouragement, but I fear that

they are giving up in despair their long struggle with injustice and fraud. Our Colonial Office is dead to all appeals, and your Government is incapable of meeting the crisis. May God speedily appear for us and them, and lead us once more into a land of pleasantness and peace.

This letter is a very unsatisfactory one to you I know, yet I will not withhold it, lest you think we do not remember you. Please to give my kind regards to Mrs. Henderson, and believe me to remain, yours very truly,

Your, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. B. UNDERHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Extract from a Letter of Sir C. Metcalfe, dated June 10, 1840, *quoted at page* 428 *of Vol. II of Kaye's "Life of Lord Metcalfe."*

"There is another evil caused by the wickedness of a few men, Baptist missionaries, pretended ministers of religion, but really wolves in sheep's clothing, who ferment discontent and disaffection among the negro population. Whatever their motives may be, their conduct is most pernicious.

"This evil also seems to be without remedy."

Extract from a Despatch of Sir C. Metcalfe, dated June 15, 1840, *to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, quoted at pages* 405 *and* 406 *of Vol. II of Kaye's "Life of Lord Metcalfe."*

"I am bound by my duty to inform your Lordship that, in my opinion, the worst evil which hangs with a menacing aspect over the destinies of this Island is the influence exercised with baneful effect by the majority of the Baptist ministers. It is the worst because it is the more irremediable. Other evils and difficulties may yield to time, which may also diminish the influence of the Baptist missionaries or produce successors of a more Christian character; but long after their influence has ceased, its pernicious effects on the disposition of the people will remain. I entirely renounce the opinion which I at one time entertained that they had done more good than harm. The good that they have done would have been done without them. The evil is exclusively their own."

At page 407 of vol. ii of Kaye's "Life of Lord Metcalfe," the biographer writes:—

"Assuredly the teachings of the missionaries bore in due season, as I have said, the accustomed fruit, and soon it became Metcalfe's duty to report that serious disturbances had occurred, one at Lucea, the other at Falmouth.

"In the latter both the police and military were pelted by the mob, and many of them wounded by the missiles discharged by the excited populace. The Riot Act was read. The troops, who had acted with wonderful forbearance, were drawn up in line and received the word to load. Upon this the rioters dispersed. But the fever of excitement was not soon allayed.

"The most unseemly language denunciatory of all constituted authority was freely used, the Baptist missionary who had been the promoter of the strife being the most unscrupulous in his utterances.

"'If I had known your errand,' said the man of peace to the police inspector, who had entered the house in the execution of his duty, 'I would have kicked you down the steps.'"

No. 4.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 254.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of letters which I have received from the Spanish Consul Don Bruno de Badan, and from Captain de Horsey, Senior Naval Officer at Port Royal, notifying the arrival of two Spanish men-of-war, sent here by the Governor-

General of Cuba, upon his hearing of the rebellion in Jamaica, to be placed at my disposal. I also append a copy of my reply to the Consul's letter.

2. This very friendly and considerate act, spontaneously emanating from a foreign Power, deserves, and will, no doubt, receive, the best acknowledgment of Her Majesty's Government.

3. In communicating with the Spanish Government on the subject I would respectfully request that the grateful thanks of the local Government, and of the inhabitants of Jamaica, may at the same time be included.

4. I am happy to say that, long before the arrival of the Spanish vessels of war, we had both got under the rebellion and had recalled to the station four additional English men-of-war ("Steady," Fawn," "Lily," and "Bulldog)," so that we had no occasion for and did not make use of any foreign assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Don Bruno Badan to Governor Eyre.

Consulate of Spain, Jamaica, Kingston,
Your Excellency, *October* 21, 1865.

HAVING had the honour of communicating to the Governor of Cuba the late lamentable occurrence at St. Thomas in the East in this island, and although I have not thought it necessary to ask any assistance, knowing full well that the prompt and energetic measures taken by your Excellency would secure the return of peace to the disturbed district, yet his Excellency the Governor of Cuba has thought it proper to put at the service of your Excellency two vessels of war, arrived in Port Royal this morning, and I feel great satisfaction in being the medium of conveying to your Excellency the assurance that the authorities in Cuba shall have satisfaction in co-operating with your Excellency to secure the peace and tranquillity of this important colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BRUNO BADAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Governor Eyre to Don Bruno Badan.

Sir, *King's House, October* 21, 1865.

YOUR letter of to-day's date has just reached me, informing me that upon learning the lamentable occurrences at St. Thomas in the East in this colony, his Excellency the Governor-General of Cuba had been pleased to place at my service two Spanish vessels of war, which arrived at Port Royal this morning.

I beg you will convey to his Excellency the Governor-General the deep obligation of myself and of this colony to the consideration of his Excellency, and for the prompt assistance tendered in so friendly a spirit.

Whilst I am happy to believe that the worst of the rebellion is over, and that consequently it is unnecessary for me to avail myself of the services of the two Spanish vessels of war, I would at the same time request you to assure the Governor-General that I am not the less grateful to his Excellency for the generous manner in which a friendly Power has come forward to offer its aid, an offer which I am sure will be highly appreciated and thankfully acknowledged by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, October* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the Spanish steam sloops of war "Santa Lucia" and "Andaluza" have arrived at Port Royal, from Santiago de Cuba, having been despatched here to render such assistance as may be required.

The Lieutenant commanding the "Santa Lucia" informs me that he purposes proceeding with both vessels to Kingston to-morrow, and that he will then take the earliest opportunity of waiting on your Excellency.

I have despatched the "Lily" this morning with directions to land the fifty troops and the arms at the several posts, as requested.

The "Lily" will, on falling in with the "Steady," direct her to remain about Black River or Savanna la Mar, and will then proceed to visit all the ports from this round the west end, to Port Antonio.

The "Fawn" has arrived, and I am ready to place her, as soon as coaled and provisioned, at your Excellency's disposal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

No. 5.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(Answered December 1, 1865, page 250.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 24, 1865.

REFERRING to the rebellion which has recently broken out, and to the unsatisfactory state of feeling which pervades the lower classes of many of the parishes, as well as to the undoubted fact that there are a large number of persons of better position or education who are mixed up in exciting agitation or in disseminating seditious principles—a state of things which renders the very existence of Jamaica as a Colony precarious—I have the honour to bring to your notice the difficulty which will exist in governing the country for some time to come under its present form of Constitution.

Already one member of the House of Assembly has been tried, found guilty, and hung for using inflammatory language and exciting the people to rebellion. Some other members of Assembly are strongly suspected of entertaining similar sentiments and sympathies; and there is a general want of confidence in the integrity and sense of public duty of a considerable section of the House.

The records of the last few sessions abundantly show that seditious language of a most violent kind has been used in the House of Assembly itself; and that its general proceedings have been those of obstruction and defiance towards constituted authority, or with regard to measures introduced for the general welfare.

But there is also an immediate difficulty in regard to filling up the vacancy in the Assembly caused by Mr. Gordon's execution. It is impossible, with propriety, to issue a writ calling upon the persons now in rebellion to elect another member; and it would be equally so, when the present crisis is over, to invite the late rebels to return a person to legislate probably upon the very facts of the rebellion.

The real truth is, that the people are not fit to elect Legislators; and there are few persons in the island fit to become Legislators.

Two courses present themselves: either for the Home Government to suspend the Constitution, and create an *ad interim* Legislature; or for the Local Government to try and get the Constitution altered in the Colony. The first could not be done until Parliament meets in February 1866, whereas the emergency is pressing. I purpose, therefore, endeavouring to get some change effected in the Colony at the approaching session.

My own impression is that it would be desirable to revert to the now somewhat exploded form of Government by a Governor and Council as at Trinidad.

I believe the majority of the members of Assembly will now be willing to modify the Constitution, and would probably go the length of making it a single Chamber under a President; half the members to be nominated, and half elected.

The difficulty in getting an entirely nominated Council would consist in the fact that so many of the members of the present House of Assembly would know that they must be shut out from an entirely nominated one, and therefore would not vote for it.

I will endeavour to do the best I can after consultation with my advisers; and if we are unsuccessful, Parliament could be asked to take the matter in its own hands next spring.

Something must be done. The Colony can never go on satisfactorily—scarcely even exist—under a continuance of the disorder, confusion, obstruction, and personalities which have so long been in vogue.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 6.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 255.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 27, 1865.

MY attention has been called to a letter published in the local papers, by General O'Connor, the officer commanding Her Majesty's troops in the Jamaica command, of which I think it right to forward you a copy.

In my despatch No. 252* of the 23rd instant I transmitted to you a copy of a correspondence which had taken place between myself and General O'Connor, in reference to the arrangements made for procuring additional troops for this colony, on the occurrence of the emergency of the rebellion. That correspondence would show how far General O'Connor forgot himself and his position, and desired to usurp that of the Governor of the colony.

The published letter, which I now enclose, is an attempt again to ignore the Governor in the arrangements made for putting down the rebellion, and an endeavour to make the public believe that to Brigadier-General Nelson and the Military "is mainly due the present most successful results."

I have no wish to detract from the merits of General Nelson, or of the Military, to all of whom, as well as to the naval men, volunteers, and civilians, the colony is most deeply indebted, as I have already most fully borne testimony to in my despatch No. 251† of the 20th instant; but I cannot allow such a statement as that of General O'Connor's in the printed letter which I send you to go forth to the public without calling your attention to it, and repeating what I have already stated substantially in my despatch No. 251 of the 20th instant, and to which my aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, can bear ample testimony, that from the time of my arrival in Kingston on the evening of the 12th October, to direct in person the movements of troops and other arrangements which I considered necessary for the safety of the colony, until the 20th October, when I left Morant Bay, satisfied that the rebellion was got under, there was not a single movement made by Brigadier-General Nelson that was not undertaken at my own special request and direction, not indeed in writing, because my intercourse with Brigadier-General Nelson was of so friendly a kind that the arrangements were decided upon in confidential discussion, and without our ever having any disagreement or difference of opinion. Upon the eve of going I left a minute stating the arrangements I wished to be continued, but which were in fact, with little exception, arrangements that had been previously agreed upon and determined.

It was clearly my duty as Governor to issue orders for the "march and distribution of the troops, for the formation and march of detachments, and generally, for such military service as the safety and welfare of the colony appeared to require." The military details regarding such distribution, and the manner in which the detachments were to be formed and composed, of course, rested with Brigadier-General Nelson, and were all most ably and successfully carried out.

It is for the Military Authorities to say how far it is judicious or right in the officer commanding Her Majesty's troops to write to a public newspaper in the tone adopted in General O'Connor's letter in commendation of one officer (Colonel Nelson) to the depreciation of another (Colonel Hobbs), both of similar rank, and engaged upon the same service, such letter not having reference to either a general order or a formal report, or, indeed, having any official character at all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 41. † Page 1.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Extract from the "Colonial Standard."

BRIGADIER-GENENRAL NELSON.

WE are happy to give insertion to the following communication from his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B., in reference to a letter signed "Sebrof," which we published yesterday:—

"To the Editor of the Colonial Standard.

"Sir,

"A letter signed 'Sebrof,' gives Colonel Hobbs, 2nd Battalion of the 6th Royal Regiment, undue credit for having undeniably broken the 'back of the rebellion,' adding a tissue of fulsome flattery that must disgust any sensible individual.

"Colonel Hobbs was not altogether instrumental 'in breaking the back of the rebellion,' although 'he marched his officers and men for eight days, from morning to night, through incessant and pouring rain, crossing rivers up to their waists'—a very questionable measure to adopt with European soldiers, if the 'Sebrof' statement is correct—but to the energetic, able, and masterly movements of Brigadier-General Nelson, to the several officers and men under his command, together with the valuable assistance of Colonel Fyfe and the Maroons, is mainly due the present most successful results, and breaking not only the 'back' but the neck of the rebellion. Such is the opinion of

"Yours truly,

(Signed) "L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,

"*Major-General Commanding the Troops.*

"*October* 25, 1865."

No. 7.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 256.) (Answered No. 355, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

IN my despatch No. 255* of the 27th instant I had to call your attention to a letter published by General O'Connor in a public newspaper, in reply to some anonymous communication which had previously appeared in the same journal.

I have now the honour to transmit an extract from the "Tribune" newspaper of to-day, in which has been published, by General O'Connor, without my knowledge or consent, an official communication from myself to the General, relative to the political state of a particular district of the island, and the advisability of sending troops to it.

This letter has not even yet been acted upon.

Under any circumstances, however, it is clearly a gross breach of official propriety, as well as of common courtesy, for the General in command of Her Majesty's troops to publish the Governor's despatches to him, without first obtaining permission.

Were such a practice to be continued, the public interests must necessarily suffer.

I append a copy of a communication which I addressed to General O'Connor upon this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 51.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Extract from the "Jamaica Tribune and Daily Advertiser" of October 28, 1865.

THE REBELLION. LATEST INTELLIGENCE.—The following despatches were received at Head Quarters House, at 11 o'clock on Thursday night last. They were kindly placed at our disposal by Captain Lanyon, A.D.C. :—

"Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor, C.B.

"Sir, *"Spa Town, October* 26, 1865.

"Understanding that the 'Plantagenet' has arrived with troops from Nassau, and having received urgent application this morning for troops for Lucea, I have the honour to request your Excellency will be pleased to send a company of troops to Lucea, by the man-of-war which is about to proceed with arms on to the westward.

"There are barracks at Lucea, in which the troops can be accommodated.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "E. EYRE."

[His Excellency, when he wrote the above, was evidently in error; the "Plantagenet" has not yet arrived.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

HAVING noticed in the Jamaica "Tribune and Daily Advertiser" newspaper of this morning a published copy of an official communication from myself to your Excellency as to the state of Lucea, and to the expediency of sending troops there, I have the honour to request that no future communication from me may be made public without my consent previously obtained.

I am both willing and anxious that the public should have every reasonable information; and, as suggested in a private note to your Excellency, when first reports were forwarded to you from Port Morant, should have no objections to the reports from the officer commanding Her Majesty's military or naval forces being published, or such portion of them as your Excellency considered could be made known without impropriety, or without injury to the public service; but it is quite another matter to make public correspondence between the Governor of the Colony and the officers commanding Her Majesty's troops, relative to arrangements suggested, questions still pending on the state of other districts than the disturbed ones, and the advisability or otherwise of taking precautionary measures with regard to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 8.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 257.) (Answered No. 354, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour, at the request of the Rev. J. E. Henderson, the Rev. Walter Dendy, and the Rev. James Reid, to forward a communication addressed to you by those gentlemen, transmitting copies of a correspondence with myself.

This correspondence has already been before you in my despatch No. 210* of the 22nd of August last.

I have only to refer you further to my despatch No. 253† of the 23rd instant, transmitting a letter from Dr. Underhill to the Rev. J. E. Henderson, which I caused to be examined and detained on the arrival of the last English mail.

The fearful, but necessary results of agitation by some of the Baptist missionaries in this Colony, and by other political agitators and demagogues, are fully developed in my despatch No. 251‡ of the 20th of October, giving an account of the recent rebellion and of the still unsettled state of the island.

* *Vide* Papers presented February 1866, on the Affairs of Jamaica, page 256. † Page 46. ‡ Page 1.

One of the great objects of the agitation kept up by certain of the Baptist ministers or by other Dissenters is the abolition of payments to the State Church: but the parties who stimulate this agitation forget that the ignorant and excitable negroes, when told that they are unjustly or improperly taxed for such a purpose, simply look upon it as a wrong to be revenged or redressed in their own way. It is easy to influence the evil passions of such a population, but impossible to guide, direct, or control them when once excited.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Memorial of Baptist Missionaries.

To the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The humble Memorial of certain Baptist Missionaries, residing in the Parish of St. James, Jamaica.

YOUR Memorialists beg leave to submit the correspondence which has recently been held between his Excellency Governor Eyre and your Memorialists, relating to a placard published by his Excellency, arising out of a Memorial of certain poor people of the parish of St. Ann's.

(No. 1.)

"(Circular.)
"Rev. Sir, "*Executive Committee Office, July* 25, 1865.

"I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor, in Executive Committee, to inform you that 200 copies have been sent to your address of a publication containing the Queen's advice, as stated in a despatch from the Right Honourable Mr. Cardwell, by desire of Her Majesty, in reply to the Memorial of certain poor persons in the parish of St. Ann.

"I am to request that you will be so good as to take such steps as may seem to you to be proper for causing this document to be most extensively circulated amongst the peasantry and other classes of the inhabitants, it being considered desirable that, as far as possible, a copy of it should be in the hands of each family, as well as placarded in public places.

"I have, &c.
(Signed) "W. R. MYERS, *Secretary.*"

(No. 2.)

"Sir, "*Montego Bay, August* 4, 1865.

"We received your circulars of the 25th of July, stating that 200 copies of a publication had been forwarded to each of our addresses, and requesting us to circulate the same.

"We deeply regret that we cannot comply with the request of his Excellency. Not having seen the petition of the 'poor people of St. Ann's,' we are unable to judge of the suitability of the reply to it. In this part of the island the people have met to complain of social and political grievances, and to pray that a Commission may be appointed to inquire into their grievances. To them, therefore, the letter of Mr. Cardwell has no meaning. We may mention that a copy of the publication, as well as another placard headed 'The Queen to the Peasantry of Jamaica,' has been extensively circulated and pasted within the walls of the Court-house, and the effect has been to produce an amount of irritation most painful to observe. The people are also greatly annoyed that reports have been circulated reflecting on their loyalty to the Queen and the constituted authorities. We can assure his Excellency that though the people are suffering from deep poverty, arising in most cases from an inability to obtain work, there is not the least fear that they will do anything that can by any possibility be construed into a desire to break the laws of the Colony. A more peaceable or loyal people are not to be found throughout Her Majesty's dominions than are the peasantry of St. James, and we deeply regret that reports have been circulated calculated deeply to injure and grieve them. We must also be permitted to state that we think it anything but wise to have supplied the volunteers with ball cartridges, as we are credibly informed has been

the case. We shall be obliged if you will place this communication before his Excellency, as it is to us always a matter of sorrow not to be able to comply with any request made Excellency.

"We are, &c.

(Signed) "JOHN E. HENDERSON.
WALTER DENDY.
JAMES REID.

"To W. R. Myers, Esq."

(No. 3.)

"Rev. Gentlemen, "*Governor's Secretary's Office, August* 17, 1865.

"I am commanded by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, addressed to Mr. Myers, and to request you will be so good as to hand over to the Custos of St. James, the circulars which you decline to circulate, containing the advice of your Sovereign, and which, though originating in a Memorial from the poor people of St. Ann's, is equally as applicable and equally as sound advice to the parishioners of St. James, or any other parish in the island.

"I am further to state that if such advice had been more frequently given before by those who undertake to guide and teach the people, their condition at the present moment would probably have been much better than it is, and the advice be less needed now.

I have, &c.

(Signed) "EDWARD JORDON, *Governor's Secretary.*

"To the Rev. Messrs. Henderson, Reid, and Dendy."

(No. 4.)

"Sir, "*Montego Bay, August* 19, 1865.

"We have informed his Honour the Custos that he can obtain from the Post Office the parcels of circulars addressed to us. We cannot admit that those circulars contain the advice of our Sovereign to the peasantry of this parish. We feel confident that Her Most Gracious Majesty, so renowned for her benevolence and kindness of heart, could never have addressed the suffering poor without one kind word of sympathy for them in their distress brought upon them by circumstances over which they had no control. There is no evidence whatever before us that it was the wish of Her Majesty that the reply to a few poor people in St. Ann's should be regarded as an answer to complaints of poverty and misrule, which have arisen in every part of the island.

"We are quite at a loss to understand the meaning of the following:—'I am further to state that, if such advice had been more frequently given before by those who undertake to guide and teach the people, their condition at the present moment would probably have been much better than it is, and the advice be less needed now.' The only interpretation we are able to put upon this language is that against which our minds instinctively revolt, because it would compel the feeling that his Excellency had used his high position to censure gentlemen of whom he knows but little, and of whose teaching for more than a quarter of a century he can possibly know nothing. Not being able to entertain such an opinion as this of one who represents our Sovereign (for whom we entertain the most profound respect, and to whom we are at all times ready to yield obedience), we should be extremely obliged if his Excellency would state plainly the meaning we are to attach to the paragraph referred to. We have all of us been labouring as missionaries in the island for more than twenty-five years, and have had frequent communications from different Governors, and this is the first time we have ever had occasion to refuse a request made to us; and, as we before mentioned, the request was refused with deep regret, it being always our wish to render obedience to those who are placed over us, as it is our constant practice to urge those who have placed themselves under our care 'to be subject unto the higher powers,' to render to all their dues, 'tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour.' Hoping that his Excellency will pardon us for seeking the above explanation.

"We are, &c.

(Signed) "JOHN E. HENDERSON.
WALTER DENDY.
JAMES REID.

"To the Hon. E. Jordon."

(No. 5.)

"Rev. Gentlemen, "*Governor's Secretary's Office, August* 29, 1865.

"I am instructed by the Governor to state that his Excellency must decline to enter into any further correspondence or discussion on the subject contained in your letter of the 19th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) "EDWARD JORDON, *Governor's Secretary.*

"To the Rev. Messrs. Henderson, Dendy, and Reid."

Your Memorialists feel most deeply grieved that his Excellency the Governor should have charged them by implication with disloyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, but they beg leave to assure you, honourable Sir, that there is no class of Her Majesty's subjects who are more devotedly attached to their Sovereign than your Memorialists, and the people connected with their congregations.

Your Memorialists feel further aggrieved that a suspicion should, in the most distant degree, be entertained by one holding so high a position in the Colony as that of his Excellency Governor Eyre, that suitable advice is not given by your Memorialists to the labouring people of this Colony.

Your Memorialists would not have troubled you, honourable Sir, with this Memorial had these charges not emanated from so high a source, and been denied the premises on which they are founded, and, if uncontradicted, your Memorialists believe such statements are calculated to produce a wrong impression on Her Majesty's Government in England of their loyalty and character, as also those of the body of Christians with which they are connected.

Although your Memorialists feel that they are trespassing on your valuable time, yet, as they are anxious that their motives and character should be above suspicion, they place before you the testimony of previous Governors of this Colony as to their conduct, and that of the body of Christians with which your Memorialists are connected.

On the return of his Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave, the official organ of the Baptist Missionary Society states, "Since the arrival of Earl Mulgrave in London, a deputation from the Committee has waited on his Lordship to congratulate him on his safe return, and to offer our respectful acknowledgments for the efficient protection afforded to our Missionaries under his government. His Lordship received the deputation with marked kindness, and was pleased to express his approbation of the character and conduct of our Missionary brethren in terms which could not fail to be highly gratifying to the members of the Committee present. It was additionally pleasant to know, from other sources of information, that the noble Earl had previously borne the same testimony respecting our brethren to Her Majesty's Government."

His Excellency Sir Lionel Smith, in a reply to an address of the Ministers of the Jamaica Baptist Union under date of August 18, 1839, says, "On assuming the government of this Colony I strongly expressed my reliance on the whole body of Missionaries, their high integrity of purpose, and in their loyal principles. You more than realised all the benefits I expected from your ministry by raising the negroes from the mental degradation of slavery to the cheering obligations of Christianity, and they were thus taught that patient endurance of evil which has so materially contributed to the general tranquillity. Even with the aid of a vicious and well-paid press both in England and Jamaica, and it may be presumed, some habitual confidence in Jamaica juries, the enemies of your religion have never dared to go to the proof of their audacious accusation against you.

"The admirable conduct of the peasantry in such a crisis has constituted a proud triumph to the cause of religion, and those who contributed to enlighten them in their moral duties, through persecutions, insults, and dangers, have deserved the regard and esteem of the good and the just in all Christian countries."

His Excellency Sir Charles F. Metcalfe says in a despatch to Lord John Russell, under date of 30th March, 1840, in speaking of the peasantry, "Their behaviour is peaceable, and in some respects admirable. They are fond of attending Divine service, and are to be seen on the Lord's day thronging to their respective churches and chapels, dressed in good clothes, and many of them riding on horseback. They send their children to school, and pay for their schooling. They subscribe for the erection of churches and chapels, and in the Baptist communities they not only provide the whole expense of the religious establishment, but by the amount of their contributions afford to their ministers a very respectable support. Marriage is general among the people; their morals are, I understand, much improved, and their sobriety is remarkable. To

these very gratifying circumstances we are indebted to the ministers of religion in the island."

Sir Henry Barkly, in his reply to an address from the ministers of the Baptist Union, at Calabar, on the 9th May, 1854, states, "Ample opportunity has been afforded me during my present tour of judging for myself of the good which has been effected by your labours in districts very often so remote and difficult of access that they must otherwise, in all probability, have remained destitue of the means of religious worship or secular instruction, and I should be unworthy of the position I have the honour to fill were I to permit my personal convictions as a member of the Established Church, to weaken my testimony as to the great value of the services rendered to the cause of civilization and humanity by the society to which you belong."

"A crisis indeed may be said to have arrived, when it behoves all who desire the restoration of Jamaica to its former agricultural and commercial prosperity to lay aside minor differences of opinion, and unite cordially for the advancement of their common interest; and I cannot mark more strongly my confidence in the loyal and peaceful character of your teaching than by declaring that you will ever find me ready to employ the influence derivable from my office, for the countenance and support of your mission, and more especially of the numerous and well-conducted educational establishments invariably associated with them, which reflect so much credit, both individually and collectively, upon the ministers of the Baptist denomination."

In a despatch of Sir Henry Barkly to the Colonial Office, under date May 1854, he remarks, "Among other visits paid with the view of making myself better acquainted with the sentiments of the peasantry, I stopped on two occasions at the principal Baptist stations in St. James, Mount Carey, near the Montpelier's, and Salter's Hill, on the road to Maroon Town, the ministers in charge of which had previously requested me to receive addresses from their assembled congregations. I availed myself of the opportunity. Whatever may have been the case in past times, the advice now given by the Baptist Ministers to their flocks is sound enough, and I should be very sorry to see the decline of their influence over them, perceiving as I do that no other would replace it, and that if left to themselves, in remote localities, the people must inevitably retrograde. As a member of the Church of England, I of course should prefer to see the spread of her communion; but supposing it for a moment possible for her ministers to acquire that influence over the negro which the traditions of the past no less than the zealous solicitude of the present confer on these missionaries, it would obviously be utterly impracticable for the rector or the curates of a parish containing some 300 square miles to leave the localities to which their duties tie them down, for the purpose of following these settlers in the wilderness, and urging them to the erection of chapels and schools, as the Baptists invariably do. That their teaching has on the whole been productive of great good, is now, I think, all but universally admitted; and I am bound to state that I found their congregations well dressed and orderly, and with every appearance of being, as I believe they are, the most civilised portion of the emancipated population."

In a reply to an address from the whole body of Ministers and Delegates and others composing the Jamaica Baptist Union, on occasion of celebrating the jubilee of the Baptist Mission to this island, his Excellency Governor Eyre was pleased to say, "I cannot, gentlemen, close my reply without briefly adverting to the gratifying account which I saw in one of the daily journals, that at your recent meeting at Montego Bay there could not have been less than 10,000 persons assembled to meet you in celebration of the jubilee; and yet (to use the words of that journal) not a single police case has resulted from this mammoth and memorable demonstration. What a contrast this peaceful and orderly assembly to celebrate a religious service presents to days gone by! Surely when the influence of the Christian missionary is so powerful in the preservation of outward conduct and decorum, we may reasonably hope that it is not without its effect upon the inner man; and that as years pass by, and successive generations follow each other, the failings and vices of the rural population—in a great degree due to the yet unextinguished and degrading influences descended from slavery—may give way before the practice and the teaching of Christian ministers; and that our country-people may become in after years as industrious, as honest, as truthful, and as virtuous as are the peasantry of any other country. Persevere, then, gentlemen, in the holy undertaking in which you are engaged, and doubt not but that, in his own good time, God will grant an answer to your prayers and a blessing upon your labours."

Your Memorialists, in referring to the testimony of former Governors and of the present Governor, have done so to remove any impression which may have been made by the recent correspondence with his Excellency in reference to their loyalty and the advice given to the labouring population of this island; and your Memorialists believe that they

have thus adduced proofs sufficient to remove any such impressions in your mind, honourable Sir, or in the Colonial Office.

Your Memorialists, and the body of Christian ministers with which they are connected—next to the approbation of Him who is the King of kings and Lord of lords in the work in which they are engaged in this island,—will feel the greatest satisfaction in knowing that, as a body of Christians, they have the confidence of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and her Government as to their loyalty and their endeavours to promote obedience to the laws of the land and respect for the powers that be; and should your Memorialists fail to convey the impression that their lives and teachings are in accordance with the principles of the Word of God, they will still continue in their course of loyalty to their beloved Queen, and pray for her and Her Majesty's Government, and for his Excellency the Governor of this Island, and will inculcate on all those who are under their care the importance of rendering obedience to the laws, respect to all who are in authority, and will urge them to practise habits of industry and economy, honesty and sobriety; that the island in which your Memorialists have lived for so many years may advance in morality and religion; that the relative and social duties of life may be properly performed; so that this Colony may be raised from its present very depressed condition, and become one of the brightest gems of the British Crown.

(Signed) J. E. HENDERSON.
WALTER DENDY.
JAMES REID.

No. 9.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 258.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the "Plantagenet" arrived about 8 A.M. yesterday with 200 troops, sent for from Nassau by General O'Connor, as communicated in my despatch No. 251* of the 20th instant, and that Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" also arrived yesterday at 6 P.M. with 529 troops from Barbados, sent for by me, as communicated in the same despatch.

I inclose the Return of troops per "Plantagenet," and also the return and report of troops, &c., per Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."

2. In the correspondence between myself and General O'Connor, which I transmitted in my despatch No. 252† of the 23rd instant, one of the objections put forward by General O'Connor was that great delay would take place, when every hour was of consequence, by sending to Barbados; but the result shows that troops were obtained from Barbados within ten hours of the time they were obtained from Nassau.

Another objection urged by General O'Connor was that troops need not be sent for from Barbados when they could be procured from Nassau and British Honduras. I explained in my despatch No. 251 of the 20th instant that no troops could be spared from the latter Colony, and a letter which I now inclose from General O'Connor will show that immediately after the arrival of the "Plantagenet" with 200 men from the former, he stated that he was "unable to furnish from this force any detachments whatever, owing to the guards and other duties in and around Kingston being now so unusually heavy."

What we should have done, therefore, if the "Urgent" had not been sent to Barbados, with so many districts in which sedition is rife and an outbreak imminent, requiring to be garrisoned, I really do not know.

But thanks to the zeal and exertion of Captain Henderson, of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," and to the prompt aid so generally afforded by Barbados, we shall now be in a position, I hope, to make all secure for the future, and prevent any further rising taking place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 1. † Page 41.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Jamaica, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the troops, as per enclosed state, arrived here this morning from Nassau, in the West India and Pacific Company's steamer "Plantagenet."

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

STATEMENT of Troops arrived from Nassau, Bahamas, on October 28, 1865.

Name of Ship.	Corps.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Medical Staff.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Total Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Remarks.
Plantagenet ..	Royal Artillery	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	Invalid.
Ditto	1st West India Regimnet ..	1	2	6	1	10	6	185	201	
	Total	1	2	6	1	11	6	185	202	

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,
Major-General Commanding.

Names of Officers.

Major Macbean.	Lieutenant Neirn.
Captain Ormsby.	Ensign Bale.
Captain Lawler.	Ensign Cole.
Lieutenant Loury.	Ensign De Visme.
Lieutenant Hill.	Staff Assistant Surgeon Divan.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date reporting the arrival of the troops from Nassau, in the West India and Pacific Company's steamer "Plantagenet."

I have to convey my thanks for the information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of your Excellency, that the troops, as per accompanying state, arrived from Barbados in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," on the 28th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 5 in No. 9.

STATEMENT showing the Troops arrived from Barbados in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," 28th October, 1865.

Corps.	Field Officers.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Staff.	Sergeants.	Trumpeters and Drummers.	Rank and File.	Total exclusive of Officers.
Royal Artillery*	..	1	..	..	1	1	44	46
2nd Battalion 3rd Regiment ..	..	1	5	..	8	2	136	146
2nd West India Regiment* ..	2	3	8	..	25	5	282	312†
Medical Staff*	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..
Commissariat Staff* ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Total	2	5	13	5	34	8	462	504

* Proceeds to the westward this day in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."
† This includes band, drummers, and recruits.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,
Major-General Commrnding.

Names of Officers.

Corps.	Rank and Names.	Corps.	Rank and Names.
Royal Artillery ..	Captain Mant.	2nd W. I. Regiment ..	Lieutenant Royer.
2nd Batt. 3rd Regiment	Captain F. F. Jones.		Lieutenant Cooper.
	Lieutenant G. W. Pochin.		Lieutenant Last.
	Lieutenant Forster.		Lieutenant Dolan.
	Ensign Russell.		Ensign Stanforth.
	Ensign Oliver.		Ensign Mitchell.
	Ensign Lynch.		Ensign Grant.
2nd W. I. Regiment ..	Colonel Whitfield.	Medical Department ..	Surgeon Crisp.
	Brevet-Major Reece.		Staff Assistant Surgeon Byrne.
	Captain Drouet.		Staff Assistant Surgeon Elgee.
	Captain Wise.	Commissariat Department	Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Monck.
	Captain Knapp.		
	Lieutenant Brett.		Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Archer.

Inclosure 6 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 28, 1865.

THE "Plantagenet" having arrived from Nassau with only 200 men of all ranks, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I much regret being unable to furnish from this force any detachments whatever.

I am prevented doing so owing to the guards and other duties in and around Kingston being now so unusually heavy. I fear greatly that the health of the troops will suffer if not in a measure relieved from the arduous work of the ast two or three weeks.

On the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" I shall, however, in the event of her bringing the strength of force I anticipate, be able to make all the dispositions, or a slight modification thereof, which you require.

Should, however, any very urgent necessity arise for the immediate despatch of troops to any quarter threatened with outbreak, I shall be prepared to forward a force of about 50 men to any such spot.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 10.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 259.)

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a correspondence with General O'Connor relative to the withdrawal of troops from British Honduras.

2. In my despatch No. 252* of the 23rd of October I informed you that when, on the morning of the 17th of October, I returned for a few hours to Kingston, and visited the General, I "was informed by him that he had changed my intended arrangements, and had decided (upon the Committee agreeing to hire a steamer) to recall the troops from British Honduras, and bring away 200 troops also from Nassau;" and that "I informed him I coincided in the latter step, if they could be spared, but that I did not think the troops ought to be taken away from British Honduras."

3. I have to call your attention to the fact that, after this verbal expression of my views to him, General O'Connor, in his communication of the 28th October, now transmitted, announces "his intention to order from British Honduras per next mail 150 men, with a proportion of officers and non-commissioned officers," without inquiring whether I acquiesced in such a step or not.

Under the circumstances I had no other alternative but to announce that I could not authorize the removal of any troops from British Honduras under existing circumstances.

These circumstances are the reported general insecurity of the frontier of the Hondo, and the special facts stated in Lieutenant-Governor Austin's despatch No. 103 of the 10th instant, transmitted in my despatch No. 110 of the 24th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 28, 1865.

WITH reference to your Excellency's proposition for the detail of 550 troops into eleven different detachments, I have the honour to inform you that it is my intention to order from Honduras per next mail 150 men, with a proportion of officers and non-commissioned officers; and I would suggest the expediency of your Excellency's communicating with Lieutenant-Governor Austin, so that no practical obstacle may be offered to the arrangement, and any unnecessary delay avoided.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this date, intimating your intention to order by next mail, from British Honduras, 150 men, with a proportion of officers and non-commissioned officers, and suggesting that I should communicate with Lieutenant-Governor Austin, in order that no practical obstacle may be offered to this arrangement.

I regret to have to inform your Excellency that myadvices last received from British Honduras show such an unsettled state of the frontier, and that the Lieutenant-Governor is so apprehensive that disturbances may be occasioned in the British territory, that I do not feel justified in authorizing the removal of any troops from Honduras under existing circumstances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 41.

No. 11.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 260.) (Answered No. 355, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

My Lord, *King's House, October 31, 1865.*

SINCE writing my despatch No. 256* of the 28th instant, I have received a letter from General O'Connor explaining the circumstances under which a despatch from me to himself had been published.

I add a copy also of my reply.

The General rightly states that I suggested that in a community like this it would be advantageous to make the public acquainted with correct particulars of what was taking place, but he omits to add, as I did in my note to him, "If he saw no objection, and such particulars only as could be given without injury to the public service," these being the terms, in substance, and, as far as I remember, the words used; for being a private note I did not keep a copy of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, October 30, 1865.*

IN reply to your letter of the 28th instant, calling my attention to your "having noticed in the Jamaica 'Tribune and Daily Advertiser' newspaper of this morning a published copy of an official communication from myself to your Excellency as to the state of Lucea and to the expediency of sending troops there, I have the honour to request that no future communication from me may be made public without my consent previously obtained;"

I have ascertained from Mr. Lanyon, my Aide-de-camp, that he inadvertently permitted the communication referred to in your Excellency's letter, to be copied. with a despatch from Lieutenant Oxley, R.N. Having only entered on the duties of his office the previous day this may be admitted as an excuse of an unintentional error which I regret, and rest satisfied will not occur a second time.

As regards your Excellency having "no objection to the reports from the officers of Her Majesty's military and naval forces being published," the suggestion emanated from your Excellency, adding that "it would be highly appreciated, it could do no harm, and in a country like this may do good," or I would not have given publicity to any despatches from the military or naval authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October 30, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch (in reply to mine of the 28th instant) informing me that the publication of my communication to you relative to Lucea was an accidental occurrence.

This explanation is quite satisfactory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 52.

No. 12.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 261.) (Answered No. 349, December 1, 1865, page 243.)

Sir, *King's House, November 2, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a correspondence which I have had with General O'Connor relative to the military arrangements to be made for preserving the peace and safety of the island during its present excited and disturbed state.

2. The correspondence explains itself, and it simply amounts to the fact that after the Governor and his constitutional Advisers, with the advantage of a personal knowledge of the country and with the latest and most authentic intelligence before them as to the state of each district, had determined upon stationing troops at certain points, and called upon General O'Connor to carry out the arrangements specified, that officer intimated his intention of sending a considerable body of troops under Colonel Whitfield to another point, with instructions to him "to act as his judgment may direct for the suppression of sedition and the maintenance of the public peace," but that he (the General) "would not hamper his ready action by breaking up the troops under him into small parties of fifty men;" or, in other words, that he would not carry out the instructions of the Governor, but would devolve upon Colonel Whitfield the Governor's duties.

3. My reply dated the 29th ultimo to General O'Connor's letter will show how unsubstantial were the grounds (in any but a military point of view as regards discipline and organisation) upon which General O'Connor's avowed intentions were based.

4. To this, my second letter renewing the application I had made, and which was also written with the full concurrence of my advisers after referring to them General O'Connor's letter and again consulting with them in reference to the state of the country and the necessity of stationing troops at the points first indicated, I have up to this morning received no reply whatever. The "Urgent" was sent away with the troops. but I was and am left in ignorance whether to carry out my instructions, or to act upon the General's own views.

5. It is quite clear that the Queen's Regulations contemplate the Governor's being solely responsible for the troops being so disposed as best to ensure the public safety. It is equally so that the Governor cannot fulfil this responsibility if the General in command is to demur to carrying out his instructions.

Should the Governor propose any arrangement to which the General conceives there are good and reasonable grounds of objection, it would be his duty to submit such views to the Governor, and then, if the latter adhered to the instructions given, the General should act upon them, leaving to the Governor the responsibility of accounting for and explaining his decision to the Home Authorities.

6. I shall be obliged by your moving His Royal Highness Commanding-in-chief to give definite instructions upon this point. The safety of the Colony requires that there should be no divided authority, but that upon whomsoever the responsibility is to rest, that officer's directions should be promptly obeyed.

7. I would especially call the attention of His Royal Highness to the fact, that in asking that troops should be split up into a great many small detachments, I was quite aware of the disadvantage of such an arrangement as regarded the discipline and organisation of the soldiers, and that I only contemplated its being continued for a limited period during a great and pressing emergency.

All the points, too, were selected with great care, both with reference to the safety of the island as a whole and as regarded the urgency of the requirements of the particular districts. Consideration was also had to the accommodation of the troops and to the means of supporting them by reinforcements or by vessels of war should such support be required, all of which was before General O'Connor.

His Royal Highness should also be made aware that in a country like Jamaica, with an immense area, uncertain and slow intercommunication between the different parishes (always too liable to interruption especially at this season of the year by floods), it would be impossible for an officer in command of troops at Falmouth, as proposed by General O'Connor, to know what was going on in the many other and distant parishes which were to be placed under him, or to make arrangements for their assistance and protection in time should any real or sudden emergency arise. The seat of Government is the centre to which all information flows, and nothing but difficulty and confusion would arise were any other system to be substituted.

To adopt General O'Connor's views would be virtually to displace the Governor and to put Colonel Whitfield in his place, without his having the facilities and advantage of

obtaining information or of intercommunication which exist at the seat of government. His proceedings would consequently be entirely local, without a knowledge of and without a reference to the state of the colony as a whole.

9. The importance of an early and unmistakeable decision of the question now submitted cannot be overestimated.

The colony itself is at stake, and occasions might easily arise in which, if any hesitation or any delay took place whilst the civil and military authorities were discussing their relative positions or respective duties, the consequences to the community might be fatal and irreparable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 26, 1865.

UNDERSTANDING that the "Plantagenet" has arrived with troops from Nassau, and having received urgent application this morning for troops for Lucea, I have the honour to request your Excellency will be pleased to send a company of troops to Lucea by the man-of-war which is about to proceed with arms, &c., to the westward.

2. There are barracks at Lucea at which the troops could be accommodated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 27, 1865.

I AM in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, having reference to the despatch of troops to Lucea, and have the honour to inform your Excellency that on the arrival of the "Plantagenet" I shall be prepared to embark one officer and forty rank and file for the place

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 25, 1865.

FROM advices recently received from Savanna La Mar, I consider it advisable that in addition to the presence of a man-of-war and the forwarding of arms, a few troops—say fifty—should also be sent by the same opportunity. As I am not aware that any buildings of a suitable kind could be obtained during the sittings of the Supreme Court, it would be desirable that they should take camp equipage with them.

If the men embark by Friday evening they would be in sufficient time, but I will see Captain De Horsey this evening and arrange further details.

The "Plantagenet" ought, I imagine, to be in before Friday, and bring the reinforcements which your Excellency sent for.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 27th instant, informing me that on the arrival of the "Plantagenet" you will be prepared to embark one officer and forty rank and file for Lucea, for which I have to convey my thanks to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 12.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Kingston, October* 26, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and in reply thereto have to inform your Excellency that in the event of the steamer "Plantagenet" arriving by 4 o'clock P.M. on Friday, I shall be able to send one officer and forty rank and file for the purpose mentioned in your communication.

Should this steamer, however, not make her appearance, I shall be able to furnish a mixed detachment of forty men, under a non-commissioned officer, to meet this emergency.

I trust this force may be removed as soon as possible, as the position is low and swampy, and water attainable only at a great expense.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 27, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of yesterday's date relative to troops at Savanna La Mar. As soon as ever the state of the country renders it practicable, I shall be happy, in concert with your Excellency, to withdraw the troops from this station, or from any of the stations referred to in my letter of general recommendations of this day's date, to which objections exist on the score of situation or difficulty in obtaining supplies.

For a time, however, I fear it is absolutely necessary to maintain them all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 26, 1865.

FURTHER reports from the disturbed districts having confirmed the impressions I entertained upon quitting them on the 20th October, that the rebellion existing in the eastern districts of the Colony is crushed, and all the principal persons concerned in the outrages, so far as we are aware, having now been either killed or captured, I am of opinion that the time has arrived for making permanent arrangements for this end of the Island, and relieving a large number of troops of Maroons, and eventually of Volunteers, from further service there. I propose therefore to your Excellency, if, upon communicating with Brigadier Nelson you find no impediment or objection exists, that the following arrangements should be made for the country eastward of a line drawn between Kingston and Port Maria.

Morant Bay :—Fifty of Her Majesty's troops to be quartered here; twenty Maroons,

to be selected by Colonel Fyfe, to be stationed here with Her Majesty's troops, and to be relieved by other Maroons at stated intervals as may be agreed upon, and these men to be on permanent pay to be fixed by Colonel Fyfe.

Bath:—The same arrangements as at Morant Bay.

Port Antonio:—The same arrangements as at Morant Bay.

Easington:—To be abandoned as a military post.

Maroon Town or Moore Town: Twenty Maroons to be kept in permanent pay, and always organised and under arms, to be relieved by others as in the case of Morant Bay, &c.

Buff Bay:—Twenty Maroons to be kept in permanent pay and relieved as above.

Annotto Bay:—Thirty Maroons to be kept in permanent pay and relieved as above.

Port Maria:—Fifty of Her Majesty's troops at Port Maria.

There is a fort here, at which the troops may be accommodated.

Colonel Fyfe would, of course, select the Maroons to be kept in permanent pay, and would take them from the Moore Town, Hayfield Hall, Scott's Hall, or Charles Town, as he might consider most expedient.

Colonel Fyfe should also be called upon to advise what he would propose should be done in regard to giving the other Maroons not actually in service and on full pay or small annual allowances, such as a retainer in consideration of their loyalty and in appreciation of their services, and upon condition of their being ready for service upon full pay whenever required.

Colonel Fyfe should report what he recommends should be done with regard to the arms issued to the Maroons who are not to be kept in permanent pay—whether they could not be kept at central stations where they would be carefully guarded and kept in good and proper order, as they are reliable weapons. Probably some arrangements might be made for retaining a small number of Maroons on pay at such of the Maroon towns, who should guard and have charge of these arms, but Colonel Fyfe had better report what he suggests as best in reference to this question.

Colonel Fyfe should also report by whom Paul Bogle has been captured, and where and how he would like to receive the reward.

The above arrangements are irrespective of those relative to Police or Volunteers, and which the civil authorities will determine when martial law ceases.

I am of opinion that all prisoners should as rapidly as possible be tried, and those who are not deserving of death or flogging be released. It is not desirable with our over-crowded jails to sentence prisoners to imprisonment, nor would I advise that flogging should be resorted to more than can be helped.

The prisoners sent yesterday to Uppark Camp, viz., Dr. Bruce, Phillips and Morris, should be sent down to Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir" to be forwarded with the papers and documents, and any evidence against them, to Morant Bay, to be dealt with there by court-martial, as there is already evidence at that place regarding them.

Some depositions against Dr. Bruce are herewith forwarded.

It is my intention to proclaim a general amnesty in the County of Surry to all except those who have been participators in the murders, excepting those who are found in possession of stolen property, and excepting those who are now prisoners awaiting trial, upon their coming in and reporting themselves to the civil or military authorities as submitting themselves to the Queen's authority.

I purpose addressing your Excellency separately in reference to the permanent defence of the other parts of the Island at a future time. As soon as I hear from your Excellency after you have had an opportunity of communicating of with Brigadier Nelson, I will at once issue the requisite proclamation.

With regard to the force acting under Colonel Hobbs, I have not sufficient information to enable me to state whether the whole might be withdrawn. Probably it might be judicious for a time to leave a detachment of fifty men at Moncklands, or whatever other point in that vicinity may be considered most convenient and suitable.

I think Brigadier Nelson should also be called upon to report, after communicating with Colonel Fyfe and the other officers in command of detachments, whether there are any rebels who should be excepted by name from the general amnesty.

The proclamation of an amnesty would not terminate martial law; that point would remain for further consideration.

The box of papers relative to Dr. Bruce will be sent over to Kingston by the noon train to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 12.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 27, 1865.

I AM in receipt of your Excellency's communication of yesterday's date, relative to the farther disposition of troops in the county of Surry, and other matters connected with the insurrection, and have the honour to state that on receiving the opinions of Brigadier-General Nelson and Colonel Fyfe on the arrangements proposed, I will lose no time in forwarding the same, together with such propositions as I may myself be desirous of offering for your Excellency's consideration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 9 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 27, 1865.

AS the troops sent for by your Excellency from Nassau have arrived, and those applied for from Barbados may be shortly expected, I have the honour to submit that the following arrangements should be made for preserving the permanent peace and good order of the island and for preventing the occurrence of any further outbreak of rebellion or for putting it down promptly should any further rising of the negro population unfortunately take place.

I would propose that the following numbers of troops should be located at the additional stations hereinunder specified:—

Black River	50	St. Ann's Bay	50
Montego Bay	50	Mandeville	50
Falmouth	50		

These together with the recommendations already made in my communication dated the 25th instant, and in my two letters of the 26th, would make the whole of the special military arrangements for the entire island as follows:—

Morant Bay	50	Montego Bay	50
Bath	50	Lucea	50
Port Antonio	50	Savanna la Mar	50
Port Maria	50	Black River	50
St. Ann's Bay	50	Mandeville, inland	50
Falmouth	50		

This would make a total of 550 men, which I consider to be absolutely required for some time to come to insure the safety and tranquillity of the various parishes not contiguous to head-quarters.

The ordinary military establishment previously kept up in Jamaica I consider ought still to be maintained for the protection of the capital, and as a reserve to draw upon in case of any emergency arising.

I am quite aware of the undesirableness in a military point of view, and in reference to the discipline and organization of soldiers, of having regiments broken up into small detachments, but, under existing circumstances, it is for the present unavoidable.

We have abundant and undoubted proof that the same spirit of disaffection and disloyalty which led to the rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East exists to a considerable degree in every parish in the island; and in a country so extensive as Jamaica, and affording so few facilities for receiving early intelligence, or for making rapid movements by land, it is absolutely essential that for some time to come a considerable number of points should be occupied as military positions around the coast and island.

In the course of some little time as the present state of feeling becomes modified, I have every reason to hope the troops may be withdrawn from any of the stations and concentrated, but I think it will be even then requisite to maintain for some years military stations at three or four principal points, such as Montego Bay, Falmouth, Port Antonio, and one or perhaps two others to be hereafter determined.

In the first instance the troops at the eleven stations indicated would have to be accommodated temporarily as could be best arranged.

There are barracks at Port Antonio, at Falmouth, at Montego Bay, and at Lucea.

At most of the other stations, except Morant Bay (where they have been destroyed), there are public or parochial buildings which might temporarily be made use of; but as soon as your Excellency acquiesces in these arrangements proposed the Colonial Government will be prepared to send round an officer to act in conjunction with an officer of the Royal Engineers to make the best arrangements which may be practicable at the expense of the colony for providing suitable accommodation for the troops at the different stations to be established.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Since writing this despatch I am informed that the telegram which reached me yesterday announcing the arrival of the troops from Nassau was an error.

E. E.

Inclosure 10 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

ADVICES which have just reached me from the Custos of St. Ann's lead me to believe that the spirit of disloyalty and sedition are rampant at Brown's Town in that parish, that the most threatening language is openly indulged in, and that there is an intention to rise in insurrection about the 2nd November, being the date when the next Magisterial Courts are to be held, unless timely measures be taken to prevent it.

The names of the ringleaders in this movement and the evidence against them are in possession of the Magistrates, but in the present unprotected state of the district it has rightly been judged inexpedient to make arrests.

I have also communications from the Custos of St. Mary's, informing me that apprehensions are entertained at Port Maria, and urging that troops be sent there.

Under these circumstances I have, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, directed that the "Plantagenet" (in the absence of a man-of-war) be chartered to at once proceed to Port Maria with troops, to St. Ann's Bay with arms, and to Dry Harbour to land troops for Brown's Town.

I have to request, therefore, now that the "Plantagenet" has arrived with troops from Nassau, your Excellency will be pleased to direct the following arrangements to be carried out:--

50 troops to Port Maria;

50 stand of arms to St. Ann's Bay;

100 troops to Brown's Town.

The accommodation available for troops at Port Maria was mentioned in my letter in general arrangements of the 26th instant.

At Brown's Town I believe there is a Baptist chapel and a small Court-house; but it would probably be safer to provide camp equipage, for fear of the accommodation not being suitable or sufficient.

The troops would have to march seven miles from Dry Harbour to Brown's Town. I imagine carts might be obtained at Brown's Town if not at Dry Harbour; but the officer in command had better communicate with the Custos when the ship is at St. Ann's Bay, as I am sure Mr. Royes will make every practicable arrangement for getting the baggage of the troops from Dry Harbour to Brown's Town.

In the existing state of Jamaica, with disloyalty and sedition latent everywhere and threatening language openly used in many places, it is essential that the most prompt and decisive measures should be taken, and that the Executive should show itself not only ready to put down an outbreak should it occur but able at once to capture and punish those who dare to make use of threatening or seditious language, thereby giving confidence to the loyal, over-awing the disaffected, and, if possible, preventing such outbreak taking place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

ir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

REFERRING to my letter of to-day's date in reference to sending troops to Port Maria and Brown's Town, I omitted to mention that if the troops intended for Lucea are also available, they might be sent by the same opportunity.

I have, &c.
Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 29, 1865.

SINCE the despatch of my letters of yesterday's date, requesting that troops might be sent to Port Maria and Brown's Town in the "Plantagenet," I have learnt the very expeditious and opportune arrival of Her Majesty's troop-ship "Urgent," with some 500 troops on board, from Barbados.

This event will admit of the whole of the arrangements contemplated in my general despatch of the 27th instant being at once carried into effect, and I would therefore request your Excellency to arrange that the "Urgent" may take a sufficient number to admit of the undermentioned troops at the following places merely being left:—50 at Port Maria, 100 at Brown's Town, 50 at Montego Bay, 50 at Lucea, 50 at Savanna la Mar, and 50 at Black River; beginning with Port Maria, and taking the other places in rotation. It should be so arranged that the troops intended for Brown's Town should arrive at Brown's Town not later than Wednesday, the 1st of November, but as much earlier as practicable.

The hundred men to be sent to Brown's Town would, when the emergency in that locality is over, supply the fifty men specified in your general letter as required for St. Ann's and the fifty men required for Falmouth, to both which places they could readily march for Brown's Town.

The fifty men required for Mandeville, in Manchester, will have to be marched across the country *viâ* Spanish Town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 12.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," detail as per margin,* and to acquaint you that it is my intention to despatch her as soon as possible, say on Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning, to the westward, leaving one or two detachments at important posts, but making Falmouth the head-quarters of Colonel Whitfield and the main body of his force.

Having the utmost confidence in this officer, I shall instruct him to act as his judgment may direct for the suppression of sedition and the maintenance of the public peace. I will not, therefore, hamper his ready action by breaking up the troops under him into small parties of fifty men, which in case of serious opposition would be too weak to act effectually, and would be liable to defeat in detail—an exceedingly bad moral effect arising from a slight reverse.

I have, in pursuance of the above, to request your Excellency will direct the several Custodes to render every assistance and information to Colonel Whitfield, as I have placed the whole westward district under his command.

The detachment of the 3rd Buffs will garrison Up Park camp, and I shall then have at Newcastle a few Europeans ready for an emergency; beyond this I shall have no men at my disposal.

* Royal Artillery, 48; 2nd Battalion, 3rd Foot, 158; 2nd West India Regiment, 327.

I think it would be expedient for your Excellency to direct either a steamer to be placed under Colonel Whitfield's orders, either by the naval authorities or by the Colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 14 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of this morning's date, informing me that the "Urgent" had arrived with troops, and that it was your intention to despatch her on Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning "to the westward, leaving one or two detachments at important points, but making Falmouth the head-quarters of Colonel Whitfield and the main body of his force." That, "having the utmost confidence in this officer, you should instruct him to act as his judgment may direct for the suppression of sedition, and the maintenance of the public peace, and that you would not therefore hamper his ready action by breaking up the troops under him into small parties of fifty men, which in case of serious opposition would be too weak to act effectively, and would be liable to defeat in detail, an exceedingly bad moral effect arising from a slight reverse;" and that in "pursuance of the above you request me to direct the several Custodes to render every assistance and information to Colonel Whitfield, as you have placed the whole westward district under his command;" and further stating that it would be expedient for me to direct a steamer to be placed under Colonel Whitfield's orders, either by the naval authorities or by the colony.

2. In reply I have to call your Excellency's attention to the following facts:—

1st. Neither war nor actual rebellion exist at present in the western districts: there are no parties in arms against us, nor is there any organised body of negroes, so far as I am aware; consequently there is at present no requirement for a large force in any one position, and no likelihood of any serious opposition being made to a trained military body of even fifty men only, aided, moreover, as they would be by volunteers, police, or the resident settlers in the case of any disturbance.

Even in the districts to the eastward, where the rebellion actually broke out, there was no attempt to resist an organised force of only thirty-five men marched through the heart of the disturbed district from Port Morant to the Rhine beyond Bath.

2ndly. The principal positions at which military support is considered to be required for a time are comparatively isolated from each other with no very rapid or constant intercommunication, and that an outbreak might occur at any one of them, and the white population be massacred, and property destroyed, as at Morant Bay, before aid could be rendered from a position only a few hours off in point of time. A steamer would not remedy this liability.

I would remind your Excellency that in the case of Morant Bay the Executive had information that troops might be required at 8 A.M. on the day of the massacre, that is, ten hours before it took place. Every exertion was used by civil, military, and naval authorities to render assistance promptly, yet it was too late, although Morant Bay is not more than three and a half or four hours' steaming from Kingston.

3rdly. In the existing state of matters in Jamaica, with seditious language, expressions of sympathy with the rebels of the eastern districts, or positive threats openly and publicly made use of in many places, it is essential that such arrangements should be made by obtaining the support of small bodies of military as would enable the Government to capture and punish the offenders without incurring the risk of allowing an actual rising of the negro population to take place and perhaps gain head.

What is now required in the western provinces is not to undertake military operations where no actual rebellion exists, but to make such a disposition of the forces available for service in the colony as will prevent rebellion breaking out, will, as far as such can be provided for, render life and property safe, and will give a feeling of confidence to the settlers.

4thly. I have to inform your Excellency that many of the western parishes are, from circumstances, without Custodes or other civil head, and that towards the end of the present week, or very beginning of the next, the few Custodes now in the country will, in all probability, leave their homes to attend their legislative duties at Spanish Town. It is therefore more than ever necessary that detachments of troops should be stationed at the points I have indicated.

5thly. That the arrangements specified in my letters of the 27th instant, and of to-day, were carefully considered by myself and my constitutional advisers, with a full knowledge of the country, and with all the information obtainable before us as to the condition of the different districts and the state of feeling prevailing in them.

6thly. I have already informed your Excellency in my letter of the 27th instant, that whilst considering it necessary for the present to dispose troops as therein suggested, I hope that in the course of some little time, and as the state of feeling amongst the negroes becomes modified, many of the stations might be withdrawn and the troops concentrated; a change, which, when it can prudently be made, I shall be happy to consider with your Excellency.

7thly. All the stations recommended to be occupied temporarily (except three) are accessible and could be supported by sea if requisite, either by reinforcement or by the men-of-war which will be kept cruising between the ports for some time to come. The exceptions are Brown's Town, where the strength asked for is 100 instead of 50 men; Mandeville, where there is a good volunteer force; and Bath, which would be supported by a force of Maroons.

But there are also volunteer or police forces, or both, at nearly all the stations.

3. I fully share in the confidence expressed by your Excellency with regard to Colonel Whitfield, whom, though I have not the pleasure of knowing, I believe, from all I have heard, to be an officer of great judgment; but I object to the transfer to him, or to any other person, of the duty of judging or directing where troops are to be stationed for political purposes, and which appertains exclusively to the Civil Governor.

4. On these grounds, and for the considerations stated amongst others, I must again request your Excellency to carry out the arrangements specified in my letters of the 27th instant, of yesterday, and of to-day, the last two of which substitute, for the present, 100 men at Brown's Town for 50 at Falmouth, and 50 at St. Ann's.

5. Any further arrangements in addition to those already specified which your Excellency may desire to make for the establishment of an additional body of troops with the head-quarters at Falmouth under Colonel Whitfield, in command of all the troops stationed in the Western districts, and with discretionary power to act as circumstances may render necessary, I shall be happy to concur in; and as soon as ever the state of the country will permit it to be prudently done, I shall be prepared to consider any recommendations made by your Excellency, or by Colonel Whitfield, for withdrawing as many of the detached stations as possible, and concentrating them more in accordance with the requirements of effective military organisation and discipline.

6. I append an extract from a note received this morning from Mr. Westmorland, a Member of the Executive Committee, relative to Montego Bay.

I have only to add that it is most important that the troops intended for Brown's Town should reach their destination not later than Wednesday, the 1st proximo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 15 in No. 12.

The Hon. H. Westmorland to Governor Eyre.

(Extract.) *October* 29, 1865.

AT Mr. Mc Dowell's request I send a memorandum of a communication made by Mr. Hart, of Montego Bay, to Mr. Charles Levy (member of Assembly), of this city:—

Extract.

"I have just heard that Mr. Hewitt intends to preside at a monster meeting on Monday next, and God only knows what may be the result. Mr. Hewitt is a Baptist parson, and residing only five miles from this. We are all kept in a state of total ignorance as to the meaning of all this, and don't know at what moment we may be pounced upon. We are still without protection, and a magazine with ammunition, totally unguarded, is within a quarter of a mile of the town. God help us."

Inclosure 16 in No. 12.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Kingston, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour state, for your Excellency's information, that I have detailed a party of one captain, one subaltern, and fifty rank and file of the 1st West India Regiment to be stationed at Mandeville.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 17 in No. 12.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date, informing me that you had detailed a party of one captain, one subaltern, and fifty rank and file of the 1st West India Regiment to be stationed at Mandeville, for which I have to convey my thanks to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 13.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 262.) (Answered No. 357, December 1, 1865, page 249.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that, since the date of my despatch No. 252* of the 20th ultimo, everything has continued to progress satisfactorily.

As I reported in that despatch, arrangements had been made before I quitted the disturbed districts for thoroughly examining and scouring the entire country eastward of a line between Morant Bay and Port Antonio, within which, as I then stated, any rebels still at large were hemmed in. This service has been most ably performed by the military, under Brigadier-General Nelson, and by the Maroons, under the skilful management of their Colonel, the Honourable A. G. Fyfe.

Many rebels were taken and sent in for trial, and others were shot. Colonel Fyfe also succeeded, with a party of Maroons, in capturing the notorious rebel leader Paul Bogle, who had hitherto eluded all attempts to take him.

This movement so completely broke up any small parties of rebels who might, up to this time, still have kept together, that I judged it at once expedient (after expressing my views to the General, and obtaining his accordance) to issue a proclamation of a General Amnesty and pardon to all except those actually guilty of murder or arson, or in arms, or with stolen property in their possession. I inclose a copy of this Proclamation.

This step will, I have no doubt, lead to the immediate restoration of most of the plunder taken from the houses sacked by the rebels, and to the return of the peasantry to labour on the estates. The districts lately in open rebellion I therefore now consider perfectly quieted and safe, indeed far safer than any other part of the island. The retribution has been so prompt and so terrible that it is never likely to be forgotten.

The accounts from the other parts of the island continue to cause me much anxiety. No actual outbreak has taken place, and I hope none will; but it is manifest that the seeds of sedition and rebellion have been sown broad-cast through the land, and that in every parish there are many prepared, if a fiting opportunity offered, to act just as the negroes did in the eastern parishes. In many parts of the country a sympathy with the eastern rebels, and expressions of a desire or an intention to do the same in their own parishes, have been publicly and openly indulged in; whilst the local authorities, from the absence of any organised force to resist a rising, have not been in a position to take up and punish such disloyal and seditious language or threats.

Since the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" with troops from Barbados, I have been enabled to direct such a disposition of troops as will, if carried out by the military authorities, enable the Executive to keep under check and control nearly every parish in

* Page 41.

the island, and if it is not practicable in all cases to prevent a rising, we shall be in a position to put it down without much difficulty, as well as to prevent its rapid extension to other parishes as occurred in St. Thomas in the East.

There can be no doubt but that there has been an intercommunication between the negroes of the different parishes and an intention to act in concert for the destruction of the white and coloured inhabitants, as is proved by the many remarks and speeches which have reached us from all directions, some of them intimating a knowledge that something was about to occur at St. Thomas in the East, and that they were waiting in other parishes to be guided by the action taken there. There does not appear, however, to have been any actually organised combination to act simultaneously, or if there was, it was frustrated by the rising taking place prematurely at Morant Bay.

I believe that the military arrangements stated in my letters to General O'Connor transmitted in my despatch No. 261* of even date, together with the presence of two men-of-war, one on the north and the other on the south coast, constantly visiting the different ports, will render the island secure and restore public confidence; but it will be necessary for a long time to come to keep up an additional number of troops in Jamaica, as well as to have a man-of-war frequently visiting all the outports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Proclamation.

Jamaica, ss.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of Jamaica Lady Supreme, Defender of the Faith.

To all to whom these presents shall come:

Whereas we are certified that through the zeal and energy of our civil, military, and naval forces, the wicked rebellion lately existing in certain parts of the county of Surry has been subdued, and that the chief instigators thereof and actors therein have been visited with the punishment due to their heinous offences: and whereas we are further certified that the inhabitants of the said districts, lately in rebellion, are desirous to return to their allegiance: Now know ye, that, in our Royal clemency and mercy, we do issue this our Royal

Proclamation,

Hereby notifying that we do grant a general amnesty and pardon to all persons in the aforesaid districts, who shall at once come in and submit themselves to our Royal authority, by reporting themselves as so disposed, to the civil, military, or naval authorities, excepting only such persons as have been actual participators in the crime of murder, or of arson, such persons as shall be found in arms, or with stolen property in their possession, after this Our Royal Proclamation; and such persons as are now in custody awaiting trial: And we do further notify to all persons concerned in the late insurrection and rebellion, that it is our Royal command that they do forthwith restore to the proper owners, or deposit with our civil, military, or naval authorities, all stolen property or plunder of whatsoever kind.

And we do further enjoin all our loyal and loving subjects to refrain from harbouring, and to give up, to be dealt with according to law, all persons (excepted as aforesaid), who have been actual participators in the crime of murder or of arson, all such persons as shall be found in arms against us, and all such parties as may have stolen property in their possession, under pain of incurring our highest displeasure, and the penalties by law attaching.

Witness his Excellency, Edward John Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of this our Island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America, Governor and Commander-in-chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same, at St. Jago de la Vega, this 30th day of October, A.D. 1865, and in the 29th year of our Reign.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

God save the Queen.

By his Excellency's command,
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Governor Secretary.*

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* Page 63.

No. 14.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 263.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a report from Captain Henderson, Royal Navy, Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," detailing the duties performed by that vessel in distributing troops and arms around the northern coast of Jamaica.

Captain Henderson deserves great credit for the zeal, promptness, and ability with which he has carried out all the duties intrusted to him.

2. I would especially call your attention to a fact stated by Captain Henderson, that it was the intention of Colonel Whitfield to have left a detachment of twenty-eight men at Montego Bay, and another detachment of twenty-eight men at Lucea, but that owing to the reported meetings of negroes for drill at or near Montego Bay, the officer in charge, under the written discretion vested in him, deemed it right to land the whole fifty-six at Montego Bay.

I point out this circumstance because it shows the intention of the military authorities themselves to have left much smaller detachments at isolated stations than I ever contemplated or than I should have thought prudent; although General O'Connor made it one of his objections to the arrangements I had proposed, that fifty men were too small a number to be left in positions where they "would be liable to defeat in detail."

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Captain Henderson, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Urgent," at Jamaica, November* 2, 1865.

I BEG to forward for your Excellency's information a copy of my letter of proceedings, the duty upon which I have been employed being exceptional, and I must beg your Excellency to consider the communication as only semi-official.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. H. HENDERSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Captain Henderson, R.N., to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *"Urgent," at Jamaica, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report the return of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" to Port Royal, after having carried out the service of landing 377 troops at different places in the island, upon which duty we left Port Royal on Monday evening last.

2. The number of troops landed at the several ports are as follows:—

	Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Total.	
Port Maria	3	2	41	46	2nd West India Regiment.
Dry Harbour	3	3	61	67	2nd West India Regiment.
Dry Harbour	—	1	20	21	Royal Artillery.
Falmouth	10	16	135	161	2nd West India Regiment.
Falmouth	1	—	25	26	Royal Artillery, with 2 guns.
Montego Bay	2	4	50	56	2nd West India Regiment.
Total ..	19	26	332	377	

3. After leaving Port Royal we proceeded to Port Maria, where we landed the 46 troops for that place early on Tuesday. We then went on to St. Ann's Bay, where the 50 stand of arms and ammunition were delivered over to the Custos. We then proceeded on to Dry Harbour, where we landed the 88 troops selected by Colonel Whitfield for Brown's Town.

4. The ship then went on to Falmouth, where Colonel Whitfield himself landed, also 186 troops early on Wednesday. We then proceeded to Montego Bay, where the remaining troops, 56 in all, were landed.

5. This last disembarkation completed the service upon which the ship was sent, and I have therefore returned to Port Royal for further instructions.

6. At Port Maria, St. Ann's Bay, and at Dry Harbour, we found everything reported in a quiet state round about those places. At Falmouth, the Chief of Police reported Falmouth itself quiet, but that there was excitement at Montego Bay and Savanna la Mar; he also stated that all was quiet at Brown's Town. At Montego Bay we found no very particular excitement reported, but were told that the blacks had been drilling in the hills round about that place.

7. About five miles from Montego Bay on our way to that place, we communicated with the "Lily," who had on board a Mr. Levein, who had been taken prisoner on that morning in his house at Montego Bay; he is the editor of the "County Union Newspaper," and he was on the way to Morant Bay for trial.

The "Lily" will probably arrive at Morant Bay this evening.

8. Colonel Whitfield had intended landing 28 troops at Montego Bay and 28 at Lucea, but when he disembarked at Falmouth he requested me to land the whole at Montego Bay should matters not be in a quiet state there, and he gave Lieutenant Brett, 2nd West India Regiment, written directions to the same effect. After leaving Falmouth we communicated with the "Lily," and from the information received it was decided to land the whole 58 troops we had then on board at Montego Bay, and Lieutenant Brett sent a despatch to Falmouth to Colonel Whitfield immediately on his landing, to inform him of his having so landed.

9. We passed the "Lily" off Dry Harbour at 9 last night on our way back, and this morning we passed the "Nettle" gun-boat off Morant Point, at about 8 o'clock; she was bound to Morant Bay and Port Royal. In Morant Bay there is the "Onyx" gun-boat, and off Yallahs Point we passed the "Steady" gun-boat, bound into harbour.

10. The people communicated with at Montego Bay were Mr. Phillips, a Magistrate, and Mr. Mortlocke, a Custom-house Officer.

11. We have had fine weather, and the service we have been upon has been carried out without any accident.

I have, &c
(Signed) S. H. HENDERSON.

No. 15.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 264.) (Answered No. 356, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, November 3, 1865.*

SINCE writing my despatch No. 261* of yesterday's date, I received late last evening a telegram from General O'Connor, stating, "'Urgent' returned, all duties performed;" but what the duties were was not stated.

Late this evening, my aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, received a communication from Colonel Elkington, military secretary to General O'Connor, of which I enclose a copy.

This statement shows, as did that of Captain Henderson's, already enclosed in my despatch No. 263† of this day's date, that 46 troops were landed at Port Maria; 88 at Dry Harbour, for Brown's Town; 187 at Falmouth, under Colonel Whitfield; 56 at Montego Bay; besides 50 stand of arms and ammunition at St. Ann's Bay. It further appears that since marching the troops to Brown's Town, that detachment has been reduced to 43 men, and the residue withdrawn to Falmouth. A reinforcement had also been sent from Falmouth to Montego Bay.

Colonel Whitfield forwards communications from the Justices' meeting, at a place called Knockalva, in the centre of the country, on a line between Savanna la Mar and Montego Bay, expressing considerable apprehensions, and stating that the negroes were having nightly meetings, were supposed to be drilling, and were known to use openly seditious or rebellious language.

Colonel Whitfield complains "of the great indifference shown by the labouring classes to any orders issued by him in his present useless position, and the sluggish manner in which they are obeyed."

It must not, however, be forgotten that no disturbance has yet occurred, and that as the district is not under martial law the ordinary civil relations between employer and employed are still in force.

Finally, Colonel Whitfield recommends the immediate proclamation of martial law in five parishes, and General O'Connor has appended a minute that "he endorses Colonel

* Page 63. † Page 74.

Whitfield's opinion," adding that he "has been convinced from the first breaking out of the rebellion the whole island ought to have been placed under martial law."

It is somewhat remarkable that whilst entertaining this opinion General O'Connor should never have mentioned it to me either privately or publicly, orally or in writing.

General O'Connor was a member of, and was present at, the Council of War held at his own house on the morning of the 13th October, when it was decided to put only the county of Surry under martial law (excepting, too, the parish and town of Kingston), but never dissented or expressed any opinion that the whole island should be put under martial law, nor has he ever done so to me since.

I append a copy of the minute I wrote for Colonel Hunt to found his reply on to Colonel Elkington.

My own views being strongly adverse to the establishment of martial law in parishes in which, although excitement exists and seditious language has been openly used, no actual outbreak or disturbance has occurred, I summoned my Executive Committee, and submitted to them Colonel Elkington's communication to Colonel Hunt, as well as some further reports from the westward, explaining what my views were, and the grounds of them.

The Committee concurred with me, and I at once wrote to the General in the terms of the letter of which a copy is herewith enclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington to Colonel Hunt.

Sir, *Deputy Adjutant-General's Office, Kingston, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to forward the accompanying report, just received from Colonel Whitfield, dated Falmouth, November 2nd, for the perusal of his Excellency the Governor, with a request that they may be returned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ELKINGTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Colonel Whitfield to the Deputy Adjutant-General.

Sir, *Falmouth, Jamaica, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Major-General Commanding, that the force under my command left Port Royal on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" at 6 P.M. on the 30th October, arrived at Port Maria at 9 A.M. on the 31st October, and landed 1 subaltern, 1 assistant-surgeon, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, and 40 rank and file of the 2nd West India Regiment, under the command of Captain Drouet, of that corps; proceeded to sea, and arrived at St. Ann's Bay at 2 P.M., landed arms and ammunition; proceeded to sea, arrived at Dry Harbour at 4 P.M., and landed 1 serjeant and 20 gunners Royal Artillery, 1 subaltern, 1 assistant-surgeon, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 60 rank and file, of the 2nd West India Regiment, the whole under command of Captain Wise, of the latter corps. They marched up to Brown's Town, and arrived at 8 o'clock P.M. Proceeded to sea, and landed at Falmouth, at 7 A.M. on the 1st November, the following force:—Royal Artillery: 1 captain, 1 trumpeter, 24 gunners. 2nd West India Regiment: 2 field officers, 1 captain, 4 subalterns, 2 staff, 16 serjeants, 3 drummers, 132 rank and file. Medical staff: 1 surgeon. Commissariat staff: 1 deputy assistant commissariat general. Army Hospital Corps: 1 serjeant.

2. At 4·30 A.M. on the 2nd instant I received a despatch from Lieutenant Brett, dated Montego Bay, 1st November, 5 P.M. (herewith inclosed, numbered 1 and 2 respectively), informing me of the unsettled state of that place, and a threatened riot in consequence of Mr. Levein, the editor of the "County Union," having been arrested, and a prisoner on board Her Majesty's ship "Lily." I immediately despatched a force under the command of Major Reece, 2nd West India Regiment, to reinforce Lieutenant Brett at Montego Bay.

3. As I cannot find that there is any anticipation of a riot at Brown's Town, and as I consider so large a force there unnecessary, I have sent orders to Captain Wise to repair

to head-quarters, leaving Lieutenant Last at Brown's Town, in command of 1 bombardier and 9 gunners Royal Artillery, and 2 serjeants and 30 rank and file 2nd West India Regiment.

4. From the little I have seen of this part of the island, and the great difficulty experienced in procuring means of transport, I am of opinion that Trelawney, St. James's, Hanover, and Westmoreland should be immediately placed under martial law, as serious difficulties may arise from the great indifference shown by the labouring classes to any orders issued by me in my present useless position, and the sluggish manner in which they are obeyed.

I trust the Major-General will, at his earliest convenience, recommend his Excellency the Governor to place the above parishes under martial law, or my presence here, with my present small force, will be of little service to the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. WHITFIELD.

I ENDORSE the opinion of Colonel Whitfield, having been convinced from the first breaking out of the rebellion the whole island ought to have been placed under martial law.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,
Kingston, November 3, 1865. *Major-General Commanding.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

Lieutenant Brett to Colonel Whitfield.

Sir, *Montego Bay, November* 1, 1865, 5 P.M.

IN compliance with your instructions, and in consequence of information I received from Captain Heneage, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Lily," while at sea, that considerable excitement prevailed in this neighbourhood in consequence of a Mr. Levien, who is, I believe, the editor of the "County Union" newspaper, having been apprehended, and being then a prisoner on board that vessel, the force, as per margin,* under my command disembarked at about 4·20 P.M. on this date, where I shall remain until I receive orders. I am informed by the Clerk of the Peace that in the event of a disturbance occurring at Lucea he could procure a small vessel which could take my detachment to that place in about two and a-half hours.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. S. BRETT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 15.

The Magistrates of Montego Bay to Colonel Whitfield.

Sir, *Knockalva, November* 1, 1865.

IT having come to the knowledge of the undersigned that the negroes inhabiting the districts at the back of Kew Park, viz., Mountain Spring and Lamb's River, have been holding nightly meetings for some time past, and moreover have been seen in the early morning as if undergoing a drill; that conversations of a most rebellious and seditious nature have been very recently overheard, and reported to us, the Magistrates in this interior, we deem it necessary, to prevent an outbreak, that a number of troops be despatched as early as possible in aid of the Civil Power.

Ample accommodation can be given to the troops at Kew Park and elsewhere in this district, and it may be remarked that the population of the disaffected quarters numbers some thousands.

Fifty stand of arms, which were applied for yesterday, will be received this afternoon from Savanna la Mar, and will be used for the purpose of arming sundry Germans in Seaford Town, or other loyal subjects in this interior.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. COOKE, *J.P.*
J. EDWARDS, *J.P.*
DE B. SPENCER HEAVEN, *J.P.*

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* 2nd West India Regiment: 1 subaltern, 4 serjeants, 50 rank and file.

Very numerous reports have also reached us from this district, and I beg to append my signature to that of the Justices.

(Signed) JOHN S. FARQUHARSON,
Island Curate, St. Saviour.

Dear Cooper,

TELL the Colonel since I wrote the letter this came in, and people seemed very alarmed, so at 9 per same date I have got the men ready to assist the Civil Power.

Sixteen miles off. I shall write by-and-bye, complaining of the want of unanimity of the Magistrates at this place, the Custos being absent, and no man liking to act.

[Received at Falmouth at 4 o'clock A.M. on 2nd instant.

(Signed) H. W. WHITFIELD, *Colonel.*]

Inclosure 5 in No. 15.

Governor's Minute.

REPLY that I have carefully perused the documents sent by Colonel Elkington, (herewith returned). They confirm the opinion that I have long entertained that some of the western parishes, especially St. James, Westmoreland, and St. Elizabeth's, are in a disaffected state, and will require to be vigilantly watched and protected for some time to come.

The post is expected in to-morrow, and may bring further intelligence; pending its arrival little further can be done than get ready to send reinforcements should they be required. I will communicate with the General after I receive my letters.

November 3, 1865. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 15.

Colonel Hunt to Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington.

Sir, *King's House, November* 4, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, forwarding report just received from Colonel Whitfield for the perusal of his Excellency the Governor, and am directed to inform you that his Excellency has carefully perused the documents (herewith returned).

They confirm the opinion that he has long entertained that some of the western parishes, especially St. James, Westmorland, and St. Elizabeth, are in a disaffected state, and will require to be vigilantly watched and protected for some time to come.

The post is expected in to-morrow, and may bring further intelligence; pending its arrival little further can be done than get ready to send reinforcements should they be required.

His Excellency will communicate with the General after he receives his letters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. W. B. HUNT.

Inclosure 7 in No. 15.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 4, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from Colonel Elkington, addressed to Colonel Hunt, for the purpose of being laid before me, containing a report from Colonel Whitfield in command of the Military Division in the Western Districts, and other papers.

These documents, together with other communications relative to the state of the western parishes, have been carefully considered by myself and the Executive Committee.

We are of opinion that strong indications exist of a considerable amount of excitement and disaffection in most of the western parishes, especially along and contiguous to a line between Savanna la Mar and Montego Bay, the centre portions around Knockalva, Seaford Town, Kew Park, &c., being apparently the most disturbed

at present. At the same time other portions of the western parishes, though as far as we are aware free from any actual disturbance, are in a very unsettled state.

In order to meet possible contingencies and afford the largest amount of protection to the loyal and well-disposed inhabitants, we are of opinion that Black River and Lucea should be at once occupied by troops as originally proposed, and that the centre of the line between Savanna la Mar and Montego Bay, near Knockalva or Kew Park, where ample accommodation is stated to be obtainable, should also be occupied by a force of from 80 to 100 men.

In order to effect these arrangements reinforcements might be drawn from the reserve at Newcastle if no other troops are available, or from the force which I understand Brigadier-General Nelson can now dispense with from the Eastern Districts.

If no black troops are available from any other source for Black River, those now stationed at Mandeville might be moved there, and their place supplied by white troops; Mandeville being as healthy a station for Europeans as Newcastle itself.

The distance from Mandeville to Black River is, I understand, about forty-two miles with a good road all the way, or they might march to Alligator Pond, about fifteen miles from Mandeville, and be sent from thence in a gun-boat to Black River.

I believe that the district of Knockalva and Kew Park are also healthy stations for Europeans, but, of course, I only throw out these suggestions for your information, leaving it entirely to your Excellency to arrange what troops shall be sent and in what manner, and confining myself solely to requesting that the three places I have indicated, Black River, Lucea, and the centre of the line between Montego Bay and Savanna la Mar, near Knockalva and Kew Park, may be occupied by troops with as little delay as practicable.

I have also especially to request that the reduced detachment now left at Brown's Town may not be withdrawn, unless under the gravest emergency. It is true that the neighbourhood is now reported quiet, but it is the fact of the troops being there that makes it so. Prior to its occupation, the intelligence reaching me of threatened disturbance was quite as pressing as that now received relative to the vicinity of Montego Bay and the country south of it.

Referring to your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date marked pressing, and intimating your intention of sending to the coast of Africa 200 recruits and pensioners away in the "Urgent," to be replaced by others, viâ Nassau, I am of opinion since the receipt of Colonel Whitfield's report, and of communications from the Custos of Westmoreland and others, and considering the difficulty which your Excellency experiences in meeting my applications for troops, that it would not be expedient, under existing circumstances, to send 200 men away from the Colony.

With regard to the immediate proclamation of martial law in the parishes of Trelawney, St. James, Hanover, and Westmoreland as requested by Colonel Whitfield, I would remark that as no actual outbreak exists in any of them, I do not consider it will be politic or right to adopt the course suggested at present. Should any serious disturbance take place, I should be ready to recommend its adoption to a Council of War, which would have to be summoned to consider the question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 16.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 265.) (Answered No. 356, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, November 4, 1865.*

LATE last evening an express arrived from General O'Connor, forwarding me a further communication from Colonel Whitfield, copy of which is inclosed.

The report states that all was quiet in the district, and that Colonel Whitfield withdraws his application that martial law might be proclaimed. General O'Connor endorses this view, and states, "Martial law, from present appearances, I consider unnecessary."

These additional reports only confirm me in the justness of the views I entertained from the first, and in the soundness of the policy I have adopted in the arrangements directed for the preservation of public tranquillity.

Undoubtedly there has been and is a wide-spread feeling of disaffection, and a tendency to sedition and rebellion, but there is no organized combined action, and consequently the location of a small body of troops at a great many different points has

the immediate effect of keeping the country contiguous to each of those points free from any actual outbreak.

You will notice, from the correspondence forwarded in a former despatch, that Brown's Town was considered to be threatened. The establishment of a military post there enabled Colonel Whitfield soon afterwards to report, in his letter of the 2nd November, that there was no longer any anticipation of a riot.

My despatch No. 264* of yesterday would show that serious apprehensions were entertained of a disturbance inland, to the south of Montego Bay.

The marching of fifty-five men into the district at once put down any such intention if it existed. The same occurred in Vere, and in other places at which detachments have been placed.

I fully hope that if these precautions are continued for some time longer a change of feeling will take place in the minds of the peasantry, and everything so far settle down into its usual course, that before very long the many small outposts of troops, at present so necessary, may be withdrawn, and the men concentrated, retaining only two or three main positions as a precaution.

These latter will have to be kept up for a considerable period of time to come.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November* 4, 1865.

I HAD the honour to receive, at 3 o'clock P.M., your Excellency's despatch, and have the satisfaction of transmitting a report from Colonel Whitfield, 2nd battalion West India Regiment, commanding the Western District, with inclosures, showing tranquil state of affairs at Port Maria and other places.

I entertain little doubt but that Colonel Whitfield is correct in considering the first reports from Westmoreland have been exaggerated, and therefore martial law, from present appearances, I consider unnecessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

I have sent an order, express, to the officer commanding at Mandeville, to march with thirty men to Black River, leaving an officer and twenty men at the former station.

L. S. O'C.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Colonel Whitfield to the Deputy Adjutant-General.

Sir, *Brigade Office, Falmouth, Jamaica, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Major-General commanding, that on requisition from the Magistrates of Westmoreland, Lieutenant Brett, of the 2nd West India Regiment, with a party consisting of 1 subaltern, 4 non-commissioned officers, and 50 rank and file, proceeded from Montego Bay, after the men had rested for a few hours. I forward a copy of Lieutenant Brett's report; also one from Captain Drouet, 2nd West India Regiment, who is stationed at Port Maria, and Captain Wise, 2nd West India Regiment, at Brown's Town.

2. On the arrival of Lieutenant Brett's party at Montego Bay, I shall direct the detachment which was originally detailed for Lucea to proceed to that station.

3. In conclusion, I beg to report that it would appear there is little indication of a disturbance at any of the posts my men have occupied.

4. The inhabitants were evidently in a state of considerable alarm prior to my arrival here, and the first reports from Westmoreland after my arrival I consider to have been greatly exaggerated.

5. I beg, therefore, to withdraw that part of my letter applying for certain parishes to be placed under martial law, as from present appearances I consider it unnecessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. WHITFIELD.

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* Page 75.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Lieutenant Brett to the Brigade-Major.

Sir, *Ramble Post-Office, November 2, 1865, 12 noon.*

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Colonel commanding, that in consequence of a requisition (copy forwarded last night) signed by three Magistrates in this neighbourhood, for troops, the force, as per margin,* under my command, left Montego Bay (where everything appeared quiet) for this place, which we reached at 4 A.M. this morning, and where I intend to remain until this afternoon, and shall return to Montego Bay, about 10 o'clock to-night, in order that the Magistrates may avail themselves of the presence of the military to make any arrests they may deem proper. I regret I do not feel authorized to remain in this place longer than to-day, as they have earnestly requested me to do so; but I have promised them that in future, provided they will mount twenty of my men, which they say they can easily do, I shall be able to reach them before any casualty occurs.

I beg to forward a letter which I have received from them on this subject, and also to add that I do not consider any increase to my present force necessary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. BRETT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

The Magistrates of Montego Bay to Lieutenant Brett.

Sir, *Knockalva, November 2, 1865.*

WE, Magistrates of the Western Interior District, deem it necessary for the safety of the lives and property of the inhabitants of this neighbourhood that a detachment numbering at least twenty rank and file should be stationed at Kew Park, where ample accommodation could be given to a much larger number, if required.

In consequence of information obtained not later than last night, viz., "that if anything was to happen it would happen that night, or if not, not till the soldiers left the district," we believe that the march of your detachment prevented an outbreak from taking place, and we very much regret that your orders oblige you to withdraw the troops under your command at Montego Bay, thus leaving this district in its former defenceless position. In case of need, we could furnish a number of horses, say twenty, for the transport of men from Montego Bay to this quarter. In conclusion, we beg, &c.

(Signed) W. B. COOKE, *J.P.*
DE B. S. HEAVEN, *J.P.*
J. EDWARDS, *J.P.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 16.

Captain Drouet to Colonel Whitfield.

Sir, *Port Maria, November 2, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the detachment is quite healthy, and that Mr. Lindo has done all in his power to make the men as comfortable as possible, and has been extremely kind to the officers and myself.

Everything has been perfectly quiet since our arrival, and I am happy to say that the non-commissioned officers and men have been behaving themselves in a most creditable manner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. R. C. DROUET.

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* 2nd West India Regiment, 1 subaltern, 4 serjeants, and 50 rank and file.

Inclosure 6 in No. 16.

Captain Wise to Colonel Whitfield.

Sir, *Brown's Town, November* 1, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that my detachment of your regiment has taken up its quarters this day in a house selected by Mr. Harris, Magistrate of this town, and which is, in my opinion, perfectly suited for the accommodation of the men.

From information I have obtained up to this date, there are no signs of any violent outbreak amongst the population.

The men are in good health, and I have to record no casualties.

I cannot conclude without remarking that the excessive kindness and attention shown to the officers and men of this detachment by the inhabitants of Brown's Town can only be flattering to yourself; also that the assistance rendered me by the Police Magistrate and Mr. Harris on my first arriving here was most valuable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. J. WISE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 16.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 6, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 4th instant, transmitting, for my perusal, a Report from Colonel Whitfield, dated the day previous, in which that officer reports that all appeared tranquil in his neighbourhood, and that the movement of a detachment of fifty-five men from Montego Bay to Ramble Village, where serious apprehensions had been entertained by the local magistrates that an outbreak was imminent, had had the effect of allaying those apprehensions, and preserving the peace.

This is the same neighbourhood which the Custos of Westmoreland and other parties reported to be in an excited state.

The effect thus produced by moving a body of troops into a district in which disaffection or sedition are latent is another instance, like those of Brown's Town, Vere, and other places, of the soundness of the policy by which I have been guided in desiring to occupy temporarily a considerable number of posts at such places as, from the character of the population or local circumstances, we had reason to fear might become the theatre of outrage.

I believe that if this policy is continued for some little time, the country will settle down into its usual quietude, and that before very long it will be practicable to withdraw many posts, and concentrate the troops at two or three principal points; but I do not think it would be wise to withdraw these posts at once, merely because the district around them is quiet; the presence of the troops keeps them so, and it certainly is desirable that they should all be maintained for the present, as sketched in my letter of the 29th ultimo.

I think also that the neighbourhood of Ramble, or Kew Park, should be temporarily occupied by a few troops. It would give confidence to the settlers, who are evidently in considerable alarm, and would keep down the display of that turbulent spirit or seditious language which is said to have been indulged in so freely in this vicinity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 17.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No 266.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 4, 1865.

REFERRING to my despatch No. 261* of the 2nd instant, pointing out the inconvenience and danger of acting upon the arrangement made by General O'Connor, to the

* Page 63.

effect that the whole western division of the Colony should be placed under Colone Whitfield's orders, with discretion to act as his judgment may direct in the suppression of sedition and in preserving the peace of the country, I have the honour to forward a copy of a despatch from General O'Connor, in reply to one from me inquiring whether the stations at Black River and Lucea had been occupied by troops, as I requested.

General O'Connor states that he had "placed Lucea under Colonel Whitfield's orders, and directed him to occupy it with troops," but that he had "received no communication from him as to the numbers at each station."

Captain Henderson's report, and subsequently that of Colonel Whitfield himself, showed that no troops had been sent to Lucea, but that 187 had been landed at Falmouth, where little urgency existed.

It certainly may happen, and I trust will, that no evil may result from the omission in this instance to act upon the Governor's instructions; but it is quite clear that the Executive can make no satisfactory or useful arrangements for the safety of the Colony as a whole if an officer at a distance is to be authorized by the General commanding either to carry out the Governor's views or not as he may think expedient, and without the Governor having any opportunity of knowing for a considerable period of time whether the arrangements he has directed have been acted upon or not.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

REFERRING to my communication requesting that fifty troops might be stationed temporarily at Black River and fifty at Lucea, I should be obliged by your Excellency's informing me whether such arrangements have been carried out, as both districts are in an unsettled state, and without any adequate protection.

2. It is the more especially important that such protection should be given, now that all the principal gentlemen of the country are expected up in Spanish Town in the beginning of the ensuing week to attend to their legislative duties on the 7th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, November* 3, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of this day's date, I beg to inform you that I have placed Lucea under Colonel Whitfield's orders and directed him to occupy it with troops.

2. I have received no communications from him as to the numbers at each station.

3. As regards Black River, I have as yet no troops available for this station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 18.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 267.) (Answered No. 10, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 7, 1865.

IN connection with my despatch No. 254* of the 24th October, forwarding copies of a correspondence with the Spanish Consul in reference to the tender to this Government by the Governor-General of Cuba of the assistance of two Spanish men-of-war, I have now the honour to transmit a further correspondence which has passed between myself and the senior Spanish naval officer in command of those vessels.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 48.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

Señor Bastillo to Governor Eyre.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir, "*Santa Lucia,*" *Kingston, October* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to offer myself to your Excellency for any services which your Excellency may be pleased to dispose of with the two vessels of Her Catholic Majesty which have arrived at Port Royal, the corvette "San Lucia" and the schooner "Andaluza."

I transcribe to your Excellency the telegram received in Cuba from the Spanish Admiral, and which decided our departure:—

"Let two of the vessels of war in your port sail immediately to Jamaica to offer their services to the Governor, and let another be ready for further order."

The offer of our Government is complete and involves no reserve; your Excellency can therefore employ the two Spanish vessels under my orders with the same liberty of action as any other of Her Britannic Majesty's ships.

Yesterday I communicated to our Consul our arrival, and the principal and exclusive object of our commission, that he may inform your Excellency of the same till I shall do myself the honour of waiting personally on your Excellency and offering my services according to my instructions and the decisive orders of my Government.

Yesterday I visited the Commodore and informed him of the nature of our commission, and requested him to communicate the same to your Excellency that you may be early apprised of the offer of our Government, and that your Excellency may at once give us your orders, which would afford us much satisfaction.

I have learned to-day with pleasure that your Excellency duly appreciates the conduct of the Spanish authorities in the Island of Cuba, and values the military and naval services which have been offered on the occasion of the revolt of the negroes, which has happily been suppressed by the energy and tact displayed by all the agents of the British Government. I feel pleasure in this good result, and shall communicate the good news to the Spanish authorities in Cuba in my first despatch.

God preserve, &c. (Signed) VICTOR PEREZ BASTILLO

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

Governor Eyre to Señor Bastillo.

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, October* 25, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, informing me that by directions of his Excellency the Spanish Admiral you had arrived at Kingston with two of Her Catholic Majesty's vessels-of-war under your command to be placed unreservedly at my disposal to aid in suppressing the rebellion in Jamaica, which it was heard in Cuba had broken out here, and notifying that a third vessel-of-war would be held in readiness to follow you should such be necessary.

I beg you will convey to his Excellency the Governor-General of Cuba and to his Excellency the Spanish Admiral the deep gratitude of myself and of the people of Jamaica for this most considerate and prompt offer of assistance under a pressing and unexpected emergency.

I have already communicated my sense of this most gracious act to my own Government, and I am sure that Her Majesty the Queen will be much gratified to learn this spontaneous proof of friendship and good will rendered by the chief authorities of Her Catholic Majesty in Cuba to a colony of Great Britain.

Permit me to add that the obligation is enhanced by the delicate and obliging manner in which these services have been tendered through yourself and through the Consul for Spain, Don Bruno Badan.

I am happy to inform you that under the prompt notice taken by this Government, the rebellion has been quite got under, and nearly the whole of the chief guilty parties punished. I have also, since the first outbreak, received a considerable augmentation both of naval and military forces, and I have now no apprehension of any further outbreak taking place.

Under these circumstances it will be unnecessary for me to avail myself of the assistance of the vessels of war under your command, but I assure you that this fact does not in any degree lessen my appreciation of the valuable aid tendered, or of the obligations I am under for the prompt manner and friendly spirit in which that aid was sent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 18.

Señor Bastillo to Governor Eyre.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir, "*Santa Lucia*," *Kingston, October* 28, 1865.

I YESTERDAY received the official despatch which your Excellency has done me the honour to write to me in answer to the one I addressed to your Excellency on the 22nd instant, conveying the offer of services from the authorities of the Island of Cuba, as ordered by the Spanish Admiral at Havana.

2. I shall hand to my Admiral the despatch of your Excellency, for his satisfaction and ulterior proceedings.

3. Your Excellency will permit me to express respectfully the pleasure which I feel at the cordial and generous manner in which your Excellency has appreciated and honoured the services offered by the Spanish Government at a moment when peace and order have been disturbed in the Island of Jamaica.

4. I feel pleasure also in the assurance of your Excellency that the rebellion has been suppressed, and the ringleaders punished, and that the reinforcements that arrived since leave no fear of any such attempt being repeated.

5. The termination of the rebellion, and the reinforcements received, will secure peace; and this has induced your Excellency to consider unnecessary our services, though not the less appreciated by your Excellency. I must thank your Excellency for your attention and compliments to the official conduct of the Spanish authorities of Cuba, and I have the honour to take leave of your Excellency, offering myself again to your orders.

6. To-morrow we leave Kingston for Santiago de Cuba; but, in the meantime, we are disposed to remain and be at the service of your Excellency.

God preserve, &c. (Signed) VICTOR PEREZ BASTILLO.

No. 19.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 268.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of correspondence I have had with Lieutenant-Governor Mundy, administering the Government of Barbados, Major-General Brookes, commanding Her Majesty's troops in that Colony, and Captain Henderson, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."

To all these officers this Colony is greatly indebted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Lieutenant-Governor Mundy to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Windward Islands, Barbados, October* 23, 1865.

I HAD the honour to receive this afternoon your Excellency's despatch of the 14th instant, and I lost no time in requesting the Major-General commanding on this station to prepare for immediate embarkation on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" such troops as could safely be spared from his command.

2. Major-General Brooke has informed me, in reply, that the following troops, forming one-half of his disposable force, will be embarked to-morrow on board the "Urgent:"—

Half battery Royal Artillery, two companies 2nd battalion 3rd Regiment the Buffs, four companies and head-quarters of the 2nd West India Regiment, and three medical officers.

3. I trust that these troops, although somewhat short of the 500 requested by your Excellency, will prove a serviceable reinforcement; and I am happy to think that the arrival of the "Aurora," with her large complement of blue-jackets and Marines, will still further strengthen your hands.

4. Assuring your Excellency of my sympathy, and with a sincere hope that you may

be soon able to re-establish law and order in the Colony under your Government, I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT M. MUNDY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Governor Eyre to Lieutenant-Governor Mundy.

Sir, *King's House, October* 29, 1865.

I HAD the honour to receive this morning by Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," which arrived late last evening, your Excellency's despatch of the 23rd instant, informing me that in compliance with my application you had lost no time in requesting the Major-General commanding at Barbados to prepare for immediate embarkation on board the "Urgent" such troops as could safely be spared from his command, specifying that one half of the disposable force of Barbadians, consisting of half-battery Royal Artillery, two companies 2nd Battalion 3rd Regiment Buffs, four companies and head-quarters of the 2nd West India Regiment, three medical officers, had been embarked on board that vessel.

2. I beg to thank your Excellency, both in the name of the Colony and in my own, for the prompt and ample assistance thus sent to us. The rebellion has been quelled in the eastern districts of the Colony where it first broke out and spread, but a very unsatisfactory state of feeling still exists in nearly every parish in the island, in many of which great apprehensions have been entertained of a rising, and in any or all of which it might occur.

3. The troops from Barbados have just arrived in time to enable the Government to control and keep down this seditious spirit, and I earnestly trust that no further outbreak will take place.

4. It will, however, be necessary for a long time to keep up an augmented military force in Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

Major-General Brooke to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Barbados, October* 24, 1865.

IN compliance with your Excellency's request, conveyed to me late yesterday afternoon by his Excellency the Administrator of the Government of Barbados, I have the honour to inform you that I have embarked a force of Royal Artillery and European and black troops (strength as per return inclosed) under the command of Colonel H. W. Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, at 7 o'clock this morning, on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," for conveyauce to Jamaica, to assist him in quelling the disturbance at present existing there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. BROOKE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 19.

RETURN of Troops embarked on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" at Barbados *en route* for Jamaica, October 24, 1865.

	Officers.	Serjeants	Drummers.	Corporals.	Privates.	Total.
Royal Artillery, Captain Mant, half battery, 2 brass 9-pounders	1	1	1	5	39	47
2nd Battalion 3rd Foot (2 companies), Captain Jones ..	6	8	2	8	128	152
2nd West India Regiment (4 Companies), Colonel Whitfield ..	18	25	5	18	261	327
Commissariat, Deputy Assistant Commissary-General Mark ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Civilian servants	..	..	..	..	..	9
Totals	27	34	8	31	428	537

Inclosure 5 in No. 19.

Governor Eyre to Major-General Brooke.

Sir, *King's House, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of 24th instant, acquainting me that, in compliance with my request conveyed through his Excellency the Administrator of the Government, you had embarked a force of Roya Artillery and European and white troops (as per return sent) under the command of Colonel H. Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," to assist in quelling the disturbances at present existing in Jamaica.

2. I beg to thank you for the very prompt manner in which assistance was despatched. The "Urgent" arrived late yesterday, and will to-morrow proceed to distribute her black troops at various points of the coast. The Buffs will be landed at Kingston to garrison Uppark camp.

3. I am happy to inform you that the rebellion in the eastern districts has been completely subdued, and all the chief actors and instigators have been shot or hung.

Much apprehension, however, still exists with regard to nearly all the other parishes in the island, and sedition and disaffection are openly exhibited or avowed.

4. The arrival of the troops in the "Urgent" now puts us in a position to make such arrangements as will enable us to capture and punish all such persons, and I fully trust that all further outbreak may be prevented; but for a long time to come it will be necessary to maintain in this Colony an increased number of troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 19.

Captain Henderson, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Urgent," at Port Royal, October* 28, 1865.

I BEG to forward, for your Excellency's information, a copy of my letter of proceedgs. The duty upon which I have been employed being exceptional, and having been undertaken under peculiar circumstances, I must beg your Excellency to consider this communication as only semi-official.

2. I beg herewith to inclose two despatches I received at Barbados, directed to yourself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. H. HENDERSON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 19.

Captain Henderson, R.N., to Captain De Horsey.

Sir, "*Urgent*," *at Jamaica, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report the return of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" from Barbados, having on board the following troops, the whole of whom are under the command of Colonel Whitfield, of the 2nd West India Regiment :—

	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Total.
Royal Artillery, with 2 9-pounders, smooth-bore field guns	1	1	1	44	47
2nd Battalion 3rd Regiment..	7	8	2	136	153
2nd West India Regiment	17	25	5	282	329
Total	25	34	8	462	529

In addition to the above there are on board,—2 Commissariat officers, 8 servants to officers, who are not soldiers; and there are also 2 horses belonging to officers of the 2nd West India Regiment.

2. A list of the stores on board is inclosed herewith, the proper distribution of which will depend upon such orders or directions as I may receive. I beg to say that the whole of the stores now on board were wetted by rain on the day of embarkation, and they should therefore be examined as soon as convenient. The 260 stand of arms have been so examined on board, but they should be re-examined.

3. I received at Barbados a despatch from Captain Maguire for yourself, two despatches for Governor Eyre, and two for General O'Connor, C.B.

4. After parting company with the "Wolverine" on Saturday evening, October 14, we proceeded the next morning into Port Royal, and hauled alongside the coaling jetty, where we coaled throughout Sunday and Sunday night, also throughout Monday until 3 P.M. The amount of coals taken on board during this period was 271 tons.

5. We left Port Royal, Jamaica, at 5 P.M. on Monday, October 16, and arrived at Barbados at 3 P.M. on Monday, October 23. I had intended to have steamed south side of Hayti and Porto Rico; but finding on Tuesday morning, when nearing the longitude of Narvassa Island, that the wind and sea continually increased, I bore away to the northward, and we passed north of St. Domingo and Porto Rico, and eventually outside of all the islands. We experienced moderate easterly winds and a pretty smooth sea, and our average speed was 200 miles each day, the total distance through the water traversed by the ship being 1,388 miles.

6. On arriving at Barbados I immediately reported myself to Captain Maguire, of the "Galatea," and then communicated with the Governor and the Commander-in-chief of the troops at Barbados. On Monday evening we got on board 50 tons of coal.

7. On Tuesday morning the troops on board and the stores were embarked, commencing at daylight, but our proceedings were a good deal hampered by heavy rain. At noon on Tuesday we left Barbados for this port.

8. The passage to Jamaica has been completed in four days and hours, at an average speed of 240 miles a-day. We have experienced very little help from winds, which have been very light and variable, excepting for a few short periods.

9. The amount of coals now on board is 56 tons only. A copy of the sailing orders I received on leaving England is herewith inclosed, and the ship will be ready when coaled to proceed on that service, or on such other service as the exigencies of the general service may demand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. H. HENDERSON.

P.S.—We left the "Buzzard" at Barbados, and the "Galatea" sailed shortly after we did to communicate with the "Aurora" at Antigua.

S. H. H.

Inclosure 8 in No. 19.

List of Stores sent on board Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."

Royal Artillery.	
Buckets, leather	2
Kettles, camp	4
Canteens, wood	48
Straps, canteen, buff	48
Cartridges, R.A. carbine	2,400
Caps, percussion	3,000
Fuzes, N. P., diaphragm	100
Shells, shrapnell, 9-pounder	107
Shot, fixed	21
Powder, F. G., lbs.	50
Packages.	
Barrels cartridge	3
Boxes shot	9
Superintendent of Stores, Jamaica.	
Rockets, signal, 1 lb.	19
Axes—	
Felling, helved	6
Pick	6
Bills, hand	25
Tents, circular, double, complete	50
Blankets, grey	500
Caps, percussion	90,300
Cartridges, S. A., ball, wax only	60,200
Muskets, rifled, short butts, interchangeable, with rammers and bayonets	260
Muzzle stoppers	260
Scabbards, bayonet	260
Shovels, common	6
Snap-caps and chains	260
Chests, arm	13
Barrels, cartridge, ¼	86
Cases, packing	2
Buffs.	
Barrels, cartridge	13
Canteens, wood	146
Straps, ditto, brown	146
Blankets, grey	150
Kettles, camp	15
Axes—	
Felling	3
Pick	3
Shovels	3
Bills, hand	20
Cartridges, ball, 2½ drams, W. P.	9,100
Caps, percussion	11,050
2nd West India Regiment.	
Cartridges, ball, 2½ drams, W. P.	11,200
Caps, percussion	17,960
Canteens, wood	300
Straps, ditto, brown	300
Kettles, camp	35
Blankets, grey	300
Haversacks	140
Axes—	
Felling	
Pick	
Bills, hand	
Shovels	
Barrels, cartridge, ¼	16
Cylinders	16
Ammunition and Camp Equipage, in proportion for men embarked.	
Military Store—	
Tents, marquee, field officers	1
Ditto, circular, double	72
Mallets, tent	146
Pins, large	4
Ditto, small	3,684
Axes (for R.A.)—	
Felling	1
Pick	1
Bills, hand	6
Shovels (for R.A.)	1
To complete proportion per G. O.—	
Cartridges, S. A., wax, 2½ drams	25,200
Caps, percussion	37,800

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Deputy Superintendent of Stores.

Inclosure 9 in No. 19.

Governor Eyre to Captain Henderson, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, informing me of your return from Barbados with troops, and forwarding a report of the proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," under your command.

2. I beg to thank you in my own name and in that of the Colony, for the admirably prompt and efficient manner in which you have accomplished the important service intrusted to you.

3. The rebellion I am happy to say is quelled in the districts where it broke out, but disaffection and sedition are latent in every parish in the island, and nothing but the distribution of troops at various points which the opportune arrival of the "Urgent" will enable me to make will prevent further risings, or render life and property secure.

4. I duly received the despatches noted in your letter.

I have, &c
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 19.

Governor Eyre to Captain Henderson, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your report dated yesterday, giving an account of the proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," under your command, and I beg to thank you for the promptness and ability with which you have carried out the service entrusted to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 20.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 269.)
Sir, *King's House, November* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit various correspondence which I have had with General O'Connor in reference to military arrangements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington to Colonel Hunt.

Sir, *Kingston, Jamaica, October* 24, 1865.

I AM directed by the Major-General commanding to reply to your letter of this day's date, requesting to be furnished with a further report from Colonel Hobbs, commanding 2nd Battalion 6th Royal Regiment, and have the honour to state for the information of his Excellency the Captain-General that the Report alluded to containing the statement that "thousands of rebels are round him" is not considered by the Major-General to be at present sufficiently authenticated to warrant the assumption that such is *de facto* the case, and which the Major-General sincerely trusts may not eventually be substantiated; he considers therefore that it would create a premature alarm as to the position of the troops at that quarter were he to despatch the report in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ELKINGTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 25, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inclose requisitions for arms and accoutrements for the Special Volunteers, Police and Maroons of the various districts of St. George's, St. Ann's, Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, and St. Dorothy, which I will be much obliged if you will direct may be prepared.

The arms, with the exception of those for St. Dorothy and Manchester, should all be sent to Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" as early as practicable in the lots intended for each station, and the Senior Naval Officer will arrange about their shipment and distribution.

The arms for St. Dorothy and Manchester should be sent to Spanish Town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, October* 26, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to state in reply to your Excellency's letter of yesterday that instructions have been issued to the principal military store officer to have the arms and accoutrements ready for shipment to the various places specified.

The articles as per margin* cannot be supplied, as the stock is exhausted.

The arms, &c., for St. Dorothy and Manchester will be sent by 3·30 P.M. train this day under escort, and it is requested that an escort from St. Catherine or other volunteers may sent to take charge of them at the Spanish Town terminus.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 27, 1865.

SHOULD your Excellency have no objection on political grounds for the arrangement of troops as stated in the margin,† I propose carrying the same into effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 27, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter with reference to the return of the detachment of troops from Linstead to Spanish Town, and of the pensioners from Spanish Town to Kingston.

In reply, I have to state that I have no objection whatever to the arrangements suggested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

My dear General, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

FROM the reports just received from you, from Brigadier Nelson and Colonel Fyfe, I am the more confirmed in my views that the time for an amnesty has arrived.

I inclose a note from Colonel Fyfe, received yesterday, on the same subject, which please return when read.

As I gather from the Brigadier's letter to you that he has received and referred back to you my official project of an amnesty and certain military arrangements, I should be glad, as early as possible, to receive your views with regard to the amnesty, which in my opinion should (unless some objection or difficulty exist of which I am not aware) be at once proclaimed; and it will necessarily take a couple of days to get them printed and sent for distribution and posting.

The amnesty would not interfere with the martial law, or with the disposition of the troops.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* 40 pistols for St. Dorothy; 100 accoutrements for Savanna la Mar; 80 pistols for Mandeville.

† The detachment of the 1st West India Regiment now at Linstead to fall back on Spanish Town. The Pensioners now in Spanish Town to return to Kingston.

Inclosure 7 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Kingston, October* 29, 1865.

COINCIDING with the views of your Excellency, Brigadier-General Nelson and Colonel Fyfe, respecting an amnesty; the sooner it is proclaimed the better.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 8 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have this day proclaimed a general amnesty and pardon to all concerned in the late rebellion in the eastern provinces, excepting such persons as are specially excepted.

I shall be obliged by your Excellency's making this known to the several officers commanding troops operating in the field.

Three copies of the Proclamation are inclosed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that martial law will cease on and from Monday, the 13th of November, by the operation of the law under which it was called into existence in the County of Surry.

It will be desirable that all prisoners under military custody who are not disposed of by the evening of Saturday the 11th of November shall then be released.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's consideration, the communication, herewith inclosed, addressed to Captain Hole, 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, commanding a detachment of the field force stationed at Manchioneal, and forwarded to me by Brigadier-General Nelson.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 11 in No. 20.

Certain Inhabitants of Manchioneal to Captain Hole.

Dear Sir, *Manchioneal, October* 21, 1865.

THE undersigned inhabitants of the district of Manchioneal are anxious that you should make favourable mention of the village of Betty's Hope in your despatches to his Excellency the Governor, relative to the outbreak which has lately occurred.

The people remained loyal throughout, and many were most active and kind in

saving life and property, at no small risk to themselves. The most prominent person is James Donegan, and he was unremitting in his exertions on our behalf.

Thanking you sincerely for your consideration and timely help, we are, &c.

(Signed) ALFRED BORDEN, *J.P.*
FREDK. JNO. FLEMING.
CHARLES GIBBS.
ELIZABETH ANN WARMINGTON.
—— JACOBS.
T. H. BUNTING, for wife and child.
FREDK. JNO. FLEMING.
L. A. D'AUSSIGNE.
E. B. FLEMING.
A. A. DOBELL.

Inclosure 12 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 28th instant, transmitting the communication forwarded to you by Brigadier-General Nelson, addressed to Captain Hole, 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, commanding a detachment at Manchioneal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 30, 1865.

WITH reference to your Excellency's letter dated King's House, 27th October, 1865, and the latter paragraph thereof stating "that the local Government would be prepared to send round an officer to act in conjunction with an officer of the Royal Engineers, to make the best arrangements which may be practicable at the expense of the Colony for providing suitable accommodation for the troops at the different stations to be established," I have the honour to state, for the information of your Excellency, that on receiving from Colonel Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, his first report of the disposition of the troops under his command in the Western districts of the Island, I shall be prepared to to send Captain Kerr, of the Royal Engineers, to perform the duty required by your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 14 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date, informing me that on receiving from Colonel Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, his first report of the disposition of the troops under his command in the western districts of the Island, you will be prepared to send Captain Kerr, of the Royal Engineers, to perform the duty required.

I have to state that an officer will be nominated when you again communicate to me after hearing from Colonel Whitfield.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 15 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 1, 1865.

MAY I request your Excellency to inform me when it is probable the detachment at Vere might be withdrawn, as it is composed of pensioners and volunteers going to Africa in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent?"

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 16 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date inquiring when the detachment at Vere can be withdrawn, I have the honour to state that immediately upon receiving your communication I wrote to the Custos of the parish on the subject, and as soon as I receive his reply I shall be in a position to answer your Excellency's inquiry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 17 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to the Custos of Vere.

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

THE General Commanding in Jamaica having requested to be informed when the detachment at Vere can be withdrawn, as it is composed of pensioners and volunteers going to Africa in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," I shall be obliged by your reporting as early as possible when you think the detachment referred to can be prudently removed without risk to the peace and safety of the district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 18 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, November* 3, 1865.

HER Majesty's ship "Urgent" having returned from the westward, and being now ready to proceed on the duty which she was dispatched from England for, viz., carry troops from hence to the Coast of Africa, and return with the others *viâ* Nassau, it is my wish not to detain her longer than is absolutely necessary; and some of these men being now on detached duty at Vere and Savanna la Mar, I would be glad if your Excellency would let me have your wishes on the subject of those stations, whether they can be withdrawn, or should they be relieved.

The troops about to proceed to Africa number about 200 volunteers from late 5th West India Regiment, discharged men and pensioners, all of whom I have been obliged to arm and use in the late emergency. An early reply will much oblige.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 19 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, inquiring whether the troops stationed at Vere and at Savanna la Mar can be withdrawn,

as some of the men at those stations are intended for removal to Africa in the "Urgent."

In reply I have to state that as soon as ever I received your first letter yesterday in reference to the detachment at Vere, I at once wrote off to the Custos by express to obtain a report. When the report reaches me I will lose no time in again communicating with your Excellency.

With regard to Savanna la Mar, it will be necessary for the present to keep up this port, and, therefore, in removing the men at present stationed there they should be relieved by other troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 20 in No. 20.

The Custos of Vere to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Old Harbour Post-Office, November 5,* 1865.

I NOW wait on you with the answer of the Vere magistracy to your inquiry as to removing the troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LOUIS Mc KINNON.

Inclosure 21 in No. 20.

Mr. Shaw to the Custos of Vere.

Sir, *Vere, November* 4, 1865.

IN reply to his Excellency's communication of the 2nd instant, I am directed to state that the detachment now in Vere may be withdrawn at the expiration of two weeks from this time without risk to the peace and safety of the district, as it is expected the volunteers will be sufficiently drilled to take the place of the regulars in case of necessity.

I am requested to state that if a drill instructor could be appointed to the parish after the Regulars are removed he would be a great assistance to the officers and men of the Volunteers in organising that corps.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GILBERT SHAW, *Clerk of the Peace.*

Inclosure 22 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November 5,* 1865.

WITH reference to your Excellency's letter of the 3rd instant, relative to the withdrawal of the troops from Vere, I have the honour to inform you that the Custos of Vere reports the military stationed there may be withdrawn in a fortnight from the present date.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 23 in No. 20.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November 5,* 1865.

WITH reference to the following paragraph of your despatch of the 4th instant, "it would not be expedient, under existing circumstances, to send 200 men away from the colony," I have the honour to represent, for the consideration of your Excellency, that 2 serjeants and 129 rank and file, volunteers to the 3rd West Indian Regiment, constitute the main portion of the troops to embark in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," for

Africa; the remainder is made up of discharged men for Sierra Leone, St. Helena, and England.

I enclose a detail of the services Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" has to perform in carrying out the reliefs of the troops between Jamaica, the coast of Africa (the last occupying at least two months), the Windward and Leeward command, Nassau, and Jamaica.

It is of great importance that the "Urgent" should not be delayed, for the approaching season is most favourable on the West Coast of Africa, the tornadoes and heavy rains terminating. Disembarking and embarking at Gold Coast, Accra, and Lagos, are comparatively readily effected, whereas, later in the year, dangerous, and frequently impracticable. Unless, therefore, your Excellency causes the senior naval officer to give positive orders for the detention of the "Urgent," and a departure from the service she is expressly here to complete, I will deem it my duty to embark the drafts for Africa, whenever the troop ship is prepared to receive them, in obedience to the orders of His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief.

Your Excellency stating, in the paragraph I have quoted, "that since the receipt of Colonel Whitfield's report, and communications from the Custos of Westmoreland and others, and considering the difficulty I experience in meeting your applications for troops," your Excellency must permit me to observe, that when applications are made to spread troops over eleven detachments, each of 50, a total of 550 men—considering the resources at my command, with every disposition to forward the suggestions of your Excellency, it becomes a matter of no small difficulty, but of almost impossibility. I suggested to your Excellency the expediency of bringing from Honduras 150 men of the 2nd West Indian Regiment, giving me a valuable reinforcement of well-disciplined soldiers in lieu of raw recruits. Your Excellency declined altogether to entertain this proposition, on the grounds of a threatened invasion of the Indians from Yucatan.

I commanded the troops in British Honduras during the last revolution in Yucatan (1848) and for the four subsequent years, and, from my experience of the periodical reports current in Honduras, the last seventeen years, and the statements made to me by Mr. Bent, Inspector-General of Hospitals, and Lieutenant-Colonel Mann, Commanding Royal Engineer, recently returned from a tour of inspection at Belize, I am still of opinion one complete company might be safely brought from Honduras in the mail steamer to replace, if necessary, the Volunteers leaving Jamaica in Her Majesty's ship "Urgent."

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 24 in No. 20:

SERVICE for Her Majesty's ship "Urgent," from Bermuda.

Corps.	No. of Companies to be Embarked.	Port of Embarkation.	Vessel to Proceed to	Destination of Troops.
Late 5th West India Regiment; 38 men, 2 women, 2 children	..	Jamaica	Gambia	Sierra Leone.
Late 5th West India Regiment; 21 men, 3 women, 6 children	..	Ditto		Ditto.
Volunteers from 5th to 3rd West India Regiment; 138 men	..	Ditto		Cape Coast Castle.
3rd West India Regiment .	1	Gambia	Accra	Accra.
4th Ditto	1	Accra	Lagos	Sierra Leone.
4th Ditto	3	Lagos	Sierra Leone ..	Ditto.
3rd Ditto	3	Sierra Leone ..	Cape Coast Castle .	Cape Coast Castle.
4th Ditto .. .	4 Head Quarters	Cape Coast Castle .	Sherbro	Sherbro.
			Sierra Leone ..	Sierra Leone.
			Bulama	Bulama.
			Gambia	Gambia.
3rd Ditto .. .	1 Officer 39 Men	Sherbro	Nassau .. .	Bahamas.
	2 Head Quarters	Sierra Leone ..	Bahamas . .	
	1 Officer 19 Men	Bulama		
	2	Gambia		
1st Ditto	4	Bahamas . ..	Jamaica . ..	Jamaica.

Inclosure 25 in No. 20.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November 6, 1865.*

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date late this evening relative to the expression of my opinion in my despatch of the 4th instant, that it would not be expedient under existing circumstances to send 200 men away from the colony.

This opinion, as stated in my despatch, was based in a great measure upon Colonel Whitfield's report endorsed by your Excellency, that the circumstances of the western districts made it desirable that martial law should be at once established there. I had also reports from the Custos of Westmoreland and others, confirming the reports which had reached Colonel Whitfield that the centre districts abutting on a line between Savannah la Mar and Montego Bay were in an excited and unsatisfactory state.

Colonel Whitfield's letter of the 3rd November shows that the presence of a small body of troops in the districts said to be disaffected had prevented any disturbance or rising actually taking place. I see no reason to doubt, if these wise precautions are persevered in, but that any outbreak may be prevented, and the different districts be gradually brought to their usual state of quietude and good order.

I have now, therefore, no objection to offer to the "Urgent," being at once employed in the service for which she was sent to Jamaica.

With regard to British Honduras, I am still of opinion that no troops whatever ought at the present juncture to be withdrawn. It may be customary to get up periodical reports of threatened difficulties with the Indians, but I can only be guided by the reports of the Lieutenant-Governor, who, being on the spot, and with the best means of learning what is going on, is certainly a better judge than I can be of the validity of the grounds upon which such reports are founded.

So far from being prepared to have any troops withdrawn from British Honduras, Lieutenant-Governor Austin's despatches last received spoke of the possibility of strong reinforcements being likely to be required, a contingency which I gave him the most distinct intimation could not be complied with unless under the most pressing emergency.

I believe, however, that unless some new unexpected difficulties arise, the reinforcements already received will suffice for the requirements of Jamaica.

My application to your Excellency for troops to be temporarily stationed at eleven different posts only involved 550 men, including the stations required in the districts lately in rebellion. Now the reinforcements already received from Nassau and Barbados amount to upwards of 700, so that even after deducting the men required for such outposts, and allowing for the 200 now to go to Africa, there would still be the same garrison (within 50) in Jamaica for ordinary and general purposes as there was prior to the occurrence of the rebellion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 26 in No. 20.

Captain Johnston to the Officer Commanding at Mandeville.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Kingston, November 4, 1865.*

IN consequence of a despatch received just now from his Excellency the Governor, you will march from Mandeville to Black River, leaving an officer and 20 men at the former station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM W. JOHNSON,
For the Deputy Adjutant-General.

No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 270.)

Sir, *King's House, November 7, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of various communications which have passed between myself and the senior naval officer or officers in command of Her Majesty's ships on this station.

The utmost readiness and promptness has been exhibited by all in their endeavours to carry out my wishes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, October 23, 1865.*

SUCCESSIVE communications from Mr. Vickers, the Custos of Westmoreland, as well as letters from other parties, represent the imminent occurrence of an outbreak at Savanna la Mar, at or about the time of the opening of the Circuit Court on the 30th instant.

It is therefore considered essential that a man-of-war should be despatched to the port of Savanna la Mar, so as to arrive there on the evening of the 28th instant, Saturday, and that she should remain during the sitting of the Court, or until the risk apprehended is over. It is desirable that the vessel sent should be of as large a class as is available, so as to land a considerable force on the spot.

The same vessel, or any other vessel of war, should then accompany the sittings of the Court to the successive localities which it visits, and the sailing of the vessel should be so timed as to enable her to reach each station the day before the sitting of the Court.

The places and dates at which the respective Courts are to be held could be obtained from the Custos or the Judge on the spot, the Courts following each other.

The commander of the vessel appointed to the service should be requested, on arrival at Savanna la Mar, at once to put himself in communication with the Custos, Mr. Vickers.

I should be much obliged if you could carry out these arrangements, and by your informing me as early as practicable what man-of-war will be available for the service, and when she would be ready to leave Port Royal, in order that arrangements may be made to put on board any arms or ammunition required for any of the parishes she would have to visit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Wolverine," at Port Royal, October 23, 1865.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of this date, and to acquaint your Excellency in reply that I will take care to send a man-of-war to Savanna la Mar, so as to arrive not later than the evening of the 28th instant, and I will direct her or another vessel to accompany the sittings of the Court to the successive localities.

I am unable to inform your Excellency what vessel will be detailed for this duty, but the arms, ammunition, &c., which your Excellency or the General commanding the forces may desire to send to any of the western parishes had better be sent to the "Wolverine" in good time, from whence they will be trans-shipped to their respective destinations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey.

Sir, *King's House, October 25, 1865.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 23rd instant, in reply to mine of same date, and I beg to thank you for the promptness with which you have met my request.

I will arrange with the Committee to-day to what parishes arms, &c., are to be sent, and they shall be ready for shipment to-morrow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, October 26, 1865.*

HAVING considered it desirable that the prisoners named in the margin,* captured in Vere, should be sent up for trial at Morant Bay, I have requested the General to have them removed to the "Aboukir," to be ready for embarkation by the first opportunity.

I should be glad if you would inform me, as long in advance as possible, of when the opportunity is likely to offer, as there are papers and other documents to be arranged and sent down at the same time.

The other prisoners already on board the "Aboukir" are to be detained until further communication respecting them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sia, *King's House, October 28, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, and thank you for the promptness with which you have carried out my wishes as to despatching arms for the district mentioned in my letter of the 25th instant, and the conveyance of three prisoners to Morant Bay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 21.

Captain Maguire, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Galatea," Port Royal, October 30, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of to-day, and acquaint you that a vessel of war will be ready to convey the prisoners and passengers to Morant Bay on the 1st proximo; and I request your Excellency will inform me of the time and place you wish them to embark.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. MAGUIRE.

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* Dr. Bruce, Morris, Phillips.

Inclosure 7 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Senior Naval Officer.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

INFORMATION having reached me which makes it desirable to send troops at once to Brown's Town, seven miles inland from Dry Harbour, the "Plantagenet" is to be chartered for the purpose, and will, in all probability, sail to-morrow.

As there are many violent and openly seditious persons at and in the vicinity of Brown's Town whose names are known, and the evidence against them available, it will be necessary to have them captured and sent into martial-law districts to be dealt with.

The steamer sent with the troops will bring down any prisoners, if taken in time; but as she may not be able to remain long, and some of the evil-disposed persons may not be got hold of for several days, I should be glad if you would direct any man-of-war which may be visiting either Falmouth or St. Ann's Bay to look in at Dry Harbour from time to time in passing, and after communicating with the military post about to be established at Brown's Town, to receive on board, for transport to any district where martial law prevails, such prisoners as may be in custody awaiting removal, together with the evidence obtained against them.

Possibly one of the gun-boats, if either are on the north side, might be available for this service.

I have not read anything lately of the state of affairs at Black River or Savannah la Mar, but I hope the arrangements which have been made for preserving the peace of those districts will prove effectual.

It is still important that a man-of-war should accompany the Circuit Court in its different sittings, commencing at Savannah la Mar on Monday, the 30th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 21.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 28th instant, and to state, in reply, that a vessel of war will be directed to call off Dry Harbour, as requested by your Excelleney, as soon as one can be spared for that service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Inclosure 9 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Senior Naval Officer, Port Royal.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

INTELLIGENCE just received makes it requisite to send troops at once to Port Maria and Dry Harbour on the north coast of the island. Should any man-of-war have come into port unexpectedly, I shall be obliged by your detailing her on this service. If no man-of-war is in port, I shall be obliged by your sending a dozen sailors from a man-of-war to go into the "Plantagenet," or whatever ship we may be able to charter, for the purpose of guarding any prisoners who may be sent back in her.

Any communication addressed to the Honourable Henry Westmorland, a member of the Executive Committee, who is in Kingston, will meet with prompt attention, and any further information required be given.

It is hoped the troops may be embarked and sent off in the course of to-morrow (Sunday).

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Senior Naval Officer, Port Royal.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date informing me that a man-of-war would be ready on the 1st proximo to take passengers and prisoners to Morant Bay, I beg to return my thanks for the promptitude with which you have complied with my application.

I have directed the civil authority in Kingston (Dr. Bowerbank, the Custos) to examine into and arrange what cases shall be sent for trial to Morant Bay, and to send the prisoners down to Port Royal as early as practicable to-morrow morning.

Colonel Lewis and Mr. Bicknell, Police Magistrate of Kingston, are the gentlemen for whom passages are required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

SINCE writing to you yesterday and this morning I have ascertained that the prisoners intended to have been sent to Morant Bay will not be ready to-morrow, as the evidence is not complete against them.

I must therefore inform you that for the present the services of a man-of-war to proceed to Morant Bay will not be required.

The passengers intended to have been sent can go overland.

I will again communicate with you in a few days if we find ourselves in a position to send up the prisoners.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 21.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November* 6, 1865.

WITH reference to my communication of the 4th instant, acquainting your Excellency that in accordance with your urgent request I detailed a detachment from Mandeville to Black River, I have now the honour to state a detachment, as per margin,* will proceed to-morrow to Mandeville, and an officer and twenty men 1st West India Regiment from thence to Black River.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 13 in No. 21.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November* 7, 1865.

I ADDRESSED a letter to your Excellency on the 30th ultimo respecting the highly indecorous and illegal conduct of * * * *

I have the honour to request an early reply, as circumstances have transpired this day which may demand an enquiry of a grave nature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR

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* 3rd Buffs :—2 officers and 50 men.

Inclosure 14 in No. 21.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I have assumed the command of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Jamaica division, and beg to assure your Excellency that I shall at all times be pleased to render you such aid and co-operation in all matters affecting the public service as the means at my disposal will admit of.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. L. MC CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 15 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 1, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing me that you had assumed the command of Her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Jamaica division, and informing me that you would at all times be pleased to render me such aid and co-operation in all matters affecting the public service as the means at your disposal will admit of.

I beg to return you my most sincere thanks for this assurance, and to express in return my earnest desire to co-operate with you most cordially in all that appertains to Her Majesty's service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 16 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

AT a very late hour this evening the Custos of Kingston and another gentleman engaged in examining into the evidence and arranging the cases against the prisoners named in the accompanying list, came to inform me that the evidence was now complete excepting as regards one or two, whom it would be necessary to send to Morant Bay, where further evidence was procurable; and that as these men must be sent there it was desirable that all named in the list should also be sent, as the same evidence applied to several of the prisoners, and the cases were so mixed up with each other that it would create great delay and confusion if a portion of the prisoners were to be tried here and a portion at Morant Bay. I must therefore beg the arrangement originally proposed and kindly assented to by you that a man-of-war should be sent with them to-morrow to Morant Bay may now be carried out.

Should a man-of-war not be available to-morrow I should wish the prisoners named in the accompanying list to go by the first opportunity which offers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—I inclose a packet addressed to Brigadier-General Nelson containing the statements of the evidence against the prisoners.

E. E.

Inclosure 17 in No. 21.

List of Prisoners.

W. Kelly Smith	Aboukir.	Rev. E. Palmer	Aboukir.
Saml. Clarke	Up-Park Camp.	Rev. J. H. Crale	Aboukir.
E. J. Goldsen	Aboukir.	Thomas Harvey	Aboukir.
J. M. Vaz	Aboukir.	Wm. McCormack	Aboukir.
— Roach	Aboukir.	Robt. Levy	Up-Park Camp.
Alex. Miller	Aboukir.		

Inclosure 18 in No. 21.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, November* 1, 1865.

IN reply to your despatch of yesterday's date and received this morning, I have the honour to inform you that Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia" will be held in readiness to proceed to Morant Bay with the prisoners named in the list inclosed by you.

She is at her moorings off the dockyard, but will be, if so requested, sent up to Kingston to embark them.

I purpose sending the "Cordelia" on from Morant Bay to St. Jago de Cuba with a telegram for Sir James Hope to inform him that additional ships and troops are not required, as I am not aware that the original request of the Executive Committee that aid might be sent from Halifax has been countermanded.

If, however, the Admiral has been officially informed that the rebellion has been quelled, it will be unnecessary for me to do so. I would be glad if your Excellency could instruct me upon this point.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. L. Mc CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 19 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 1, 1865.

IN reply to your communication of this day's date notifying that Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia" will be held in readiness to take to Morant Bay prisoners named in my letter of this morning, I beg to thank you for the promptitude with which you have acceded to my request.

As Brigadier-General Nelson and other officers are now in Kingston wishing to return to Morant Bay, I shall be obliged by your letting the departure of the "Cordelia" be arranged in accordance with their convenience.

With regard to the telegram to Sir James Hope, I inclose a Memorandum from Mr. Myers, Secretary to the Executive Committee, giving its tenour.

Sir James Hope has not since been written to or communicated with, and I have only myself this morning learnt the nature of the communication made to the Admiral. I was under the impression that only the simple fact of a rebellion having occurred had been telegraphed.

There is no time to be lost in telegraphing to the North American Colonies and to Sir James Hope that further assistance is not required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 20 in No. 21.

The Government of Jamaica to the British Consul-General at Havana.

(Telegraphic.)

REBELLION of the blacks in the eastern part of Jamaica.

More force required.

British Consul is requested immediately to write intelligence, and requirement of reinforcement by first steamer to New York to the British Consul there, and the latter officer to telegraph to Admiral Hope, or senior naval officer at Halifax, and to the Governor of Nova Scotia, soliciting immediate naval and military assistance to Port Royal, Jamaica.

Inclosure 21 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 4, 1865.

I BEG to forward certain documents sent to me by the Revolutionary Council of Hayti.

Translations are attached which, together with the originals, I beg you will return to me, after submitting the same to Captain Wake for any observations he may wish to make.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 22 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Senior Naval Officer, Port Royal.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I SHOULD be obliged by your informing me whether either of the gun-boats are now at Port Royal, and, if so, whether one of them, or any other vessel of war, could be available for taking some prisoners and one or two passengers to Morant Bay on Wednesday, the 1st proximo.

I have, &c
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 23 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to the Senior Naval Officer, Port Royal.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have this day proclaimed a general amnesty and pardon to all concerned in the late rebellion in the eastern provinces, excepting such persons as are specially excepted.

I shall be obliged by your making this known to the officers commanding Her Majesty's ships attached to this station. Three copies of the Proclamation are inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 24 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that martial law will cease on and from Monday the 13th November by the operation of the law under which it is called into existence in the county of Surry.

As it will be necessary that all prisoners to be dealt with by martial law should be delivered either at Morant Bay or at Port Royal not later than the morning of Saturday the 11th November, it will be desirable to issue instructions to the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships cruising on the coast, and visiting the ports of Jamaica, not to receive any prisoners on board who cannot be so delivered over to the military authorities by the date stated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 25 in No. 21.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, November* 3, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of yesterday informing me that martial law will cease on and from Monday the 13th instant, I have the honour to acquaint you that I will send instructions to Commanders of Her Majesty's ships cruising on the coast and visiting the ports of this island, not to receive any prisoners who cannot be delivered at Port Royal or Morant Bay by the 11th instant, agreeably with your Excellency's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. L. MC CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 26 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of 1st November, only received this morning, inquiring what is to be done with the three prisoners who, being part of the crew of the "Oracle," are not British subjects, I beg to state that as I am not aware of there being any charge of complicity in the plot against Hayti against them, they may also be released.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 27 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

I BEG to inclose a copy of a letter which has been sent to me suggesting that some of the rebels may have escaped in boats to the neighbouring islets or cays, and that it would be desirable to have such places visited.

Perhaps you will be good enough to let one of the men-of-war or gun-boats look in at these places occasionally in passing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 28 in No. 21.

Mr. Franklin to the Hon. L. Bowerbank.

Sir, 51, *Harbour Street, October* 28, 1865.

I MOST respectfully beg to call your attention to the probability of the small islands outside Port Royal being the receptacle of escaped rebels who may be awaiting an opportunity to effect a final escape.

After making a few observations my suspicions have been the more strengthened.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY FRANKLIN.

Inclosure 29 in No. 21.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, Jamaica, November* 4, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, with an inclosure suggesting that the islets off this port may have become receptacles for escaped rebels.

I have now the honour to inform your Excellency that, agreeably to your wish, the

whole of these islets and cays have been searched this morning without finding any person or any traces upon them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. L. Mc CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 30 in No. 21.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, November* 5, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date informing me that, agreeably to my wish, the whole of the islets and cays had been searched without finding any person or any traces upon them; for which I have to convey my thanks to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 22.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 271.) (Answered No. 356, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of various reports or statements relative to the state of different districts in this Colony; also some threatening letters and a statement of Mr. Jackson, Stipendiary Justice, who was left for dead at Mr. Hire's house when that gentleman was killed. Mr. Jackson is a coloured person, and was under the delusion that from having been regarded as friendly to the black race he would not be molested.

Some of the documents now sent are interesting; but the immense pressure of work upon me prevents my analysing or reporting upon them. I have thought, however, that you would prefer having them at once as they are to their being detained for another packet, in order that I might make such a report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Mr. Jackson to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 16, 1865.

AFTER finishing all the magisterial business at Port Antonio on Wednesday last, I started at an early hour on Thursday to collect a few books, papers, clothes, &c., which I left at Belvedere, my late residence in St. Thomas in the East. On my way through Manchioneal I was told by Mr. Jones (son of the Rev. E. Jones) of the sad events which had occurred at Morant Bay the day before, and was strongly advised by him not to proceed to Belvedere, but to retrace my steps. However, thinking that I had some influence with the people of my late district, by virtue of my position as Stipendiary Justice, and being imperfectly acquainted with the real state of things, I resolved to proceed. On my way I called at Amity Hall Estate to get some refreshment. Mr. Hire, the Attorney of the property, and myself both hoped that the accounts we had heard were exaggerated. As I was leaving Amity Hall, Mr. Chisholm, the overseer of Golden Grove, and Dr. Crowdy of the same place, came up for refuge, and it was arranged that we should all remain there.

About 10 o'clock P.M. (after I had retired to bed) I was aroused by Mr. Hire and told by him that the rioters were close to the house. I immediately got up and met them at one of the entrances of the house. I tried to reason with them, but to no purpose; they effected an entrance, and in a few minutes I was prostrate, washed in my blood, and, as I suppose, left for dead. I afterwards found myself lying on a bed with Dr. Crowdy, who had been spared, being a medical man, and in consequence of the entreaties of the nurses who were attending on him, he being ill. In the morning I

found myself on another bed. Soon after Mr. Hire desired to be placed on an easy-chair with difficulty I raised on the bed to see it done, he moaned once and died. I came down in a man-of-war, and am still in a very weak state; but consider it my duty to report this for his Excellency's information and orders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. WITTER JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

Extract from Letter of W. R. Braham, Overseer of Mr. Westmorland's Estate, Gibraltar, Parish of Metcalfe, dated October 17, 1865.

WE are quiet here, but it is the general opinion that if a row was begun there would be soon plenty to join, and that some military force should be here to put a stop to anything that may spring up, and every one is very anxious, not knowing what may happen. There has been some threatening language, but it has been what was going on for some time when the people would not turn out early in August; when asked, their answer was they were waiting for the law from St. Thomas in the East, which after what has occurred seems ominous, and trust you will use your influence to get us protected, or we might be sacrificed; the excitement here is intense.

Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Belleisle, Grange Hill, October* 17, 1865.

IN consequence of the rebellion which has broken out in the east end of the island, I deem it my duty to again bring to the notice of the Governor the almost helpless condition in which this parish is placed; the police may be said to be without arms, as those in their possession have been condemned for several years back as utterly worthless.

I have an offer of the services of some fifty or sixty extra volunteers, but there is not a single stand of arms at the disposal of myself or the officer commanding the volunteers; in fact several of the volunteers now enrolled are without arms, there being only thirty-seven stand of arms in the possession of the corps.

I would suggest the propriety and expediency of sending down immediately one hundred stand of the best description of arms available, with a moderate supply of ammunition, as a precautionary measure. I am informed that there are a considerable number of old sea-service rifles in the naval arsenal at Port Royal.

Although general tranquillity apparently prevails in the parish, considerable excitement exists in the Bluefields district, owing to there being a case of felonious shooting against several persons in that district for trial at the coming assizes.

Messrs. Joseph Adolphus and William N. Farquharson, Justices of the Peace, and Mr. William John Ewen, Clerk of the Vestry and Collector of Dues, waited upon me here to-day, and informed me that it was probable that large numbers of people would be brought into Savanna la Mar, and that great excitement would exist at the opening of the Circuit Court on Monday the 30th instant. I am of a similar opinion.

Should this extreme excitement result in a riot, which is not improbable in the present helpless state of the authorities, I would respectfully suggest to his Excellency the advisability of directing a gun-boat to proceed to Savannah la Mar, to arrive in that port on the morning of the 30th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. VICKERS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Belleisle, Grange Hill, October* 19, 1865.

I CONSIDERED it of sufficient importance to send my communication of the 17th instant express by the police, in order that his Excellency might be as early as possible

apprised of the utterly helpless condition in which I find this parish with only thirty-seven stand of arms available for its defence.

I enclose duplicate of that letter in case of the original not having reached you.

With reference to the excitement prevailing in the Bluefields district of this parish alluded to in my last letter, I have now to submit for the information of his Excellency the Governor that certain vague rumours have been long in circulation as to nightly meetings being held in that district, and of the intention of the parties to burn the Court-house at the sitting of the Circuit Court should justice not be administered according to their preconceived notions.

Mr. Tate, one of the parties to be indicted for feloniously shooting, has been informed (in an anonymous letter) that at one of these nightly meetings it was decided he should be murdered in the Court-house if acquitted.

These vague rumours have had the effect of greatly alarming the inhabitants of the town.

I enclose for his Excellency's information a letter I have just received from Dr. Joseph Adolphus, a Justice of the Peace, officially informing me of the common rumour that one Cameron was drilling men every night in that district.

With such a spirit prevailing in the Bluefields district, I am most anxious for the arrival of the one hundred stand of arms and ammunition I have applied for to put into the hands of the police and the additional volunteers.

It is most probable the Judge of the circuit will, under the present excitement of the people, see fit to remove the trial into another parish; but even so, if assembled with a predisposition for riot, would that prevent the menaced issue?

Under the circumstances, considering the alarm of the inhabitants of the town and the spirit of disaffection abroad, I would most respectfully urge upon his Excellency the Governor the propriety and expediency of allowing a vessel of war to drop down to Savanna la Mar at or before the opening of the Court on Monday the 30th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJAMIN VICKERS.

Inclosure 5 in No. 22.

Dr. Adolphus to the Custos of Westmoreland.

Sir, *Savanna la Mar, October* 19, 1865, 1 P.M.

INFORMATION has been given to me from various sources, and many other parties have also been informed of it, that a man named Cameron, who is one of the head men in the Belmont district, holds midnight meetings, and drills every night from 100 to 200 of the people of that and the surrounding districts.

I deem it my duty to acquaint you of this, if you should not already know it.

I cannot vouch for its accuracy, but this, in addition to the facts of the threats held out against Mr. Tate and others, render it doubly necessary that we should be on the alert.

I send this by my servant in order that he may return in time to catch the post if you deem it necessary to write.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOSEPH ADOLPHUS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Belleisle, Grange Hill, October* 23, 1865.

SINCE writing to you (19th October), Her Majesty's ship "Steady" arrived at Savanna-la-Mar on the 20th instant. After consulting with Captain Bullock, of that vessel, and with such magistrates as could be hastily collected at Savanna-la-Mar on that day, it was determined, in consequence of the serious rumours from the Bluefields district and the state of alarm in which the town of Savanna-la-Mar was placed, to detain the "Steady" and assemble the volunteers. I deemed it the wisest course to bring the matter to a crisis before the alleged rioters obtained strength.

I ordered the volunteers to assemble at Savanna-la-Mar on the 21st instant. This was promptly done,—the men were under arms at 10 o'clock on that day.

I held a magisterial investigation, at which all persons supposed capable of giving

evidence were summoned to attend. The utmost statement that could be obtained, even from the most excited of the witnesses, was that ten or twelve persons had been drilled with wooden guns. It was decided to issue a notice cautioning all parties to abstain from drilling, and offering a reward of 100 dollars for such information as should lead to the conviction of any party or parties illegally engaged in drilling from and after that date.

I think the demonstration made by the volunteers, backed by the presence of the vessel of war, has done much good. I dismissed the corps on the evening of Saturday, and the "Steady" proceeded on Sunday morning to Lucea.

As regards the necessity for precautionary measures being adopted to guard against any serious riot at the Circuit Court, I am still of the opinion conveyed in my letter to you of the 19th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJN. VICKERS.

Inclosure 7 in No. 22.

The Custos of St. Ann to the Hon. H. Westmorland.

(Extract.) *St. Ann's Bay, October* 24, 1865.

ALTHOUGH the rebellion is happily and promptly crushed, still I fear its seeds are sown, to bear fruit at some future day.

Here we are quiet and the people cheerful, and almost all express their hope that it will not come here, but none say it shall not.

I am ever among them, and tell them it cannot if they come forward, as the good are more than the bad. They then complain they do not know what to do; in fact, they want leading and encouraging, for they are as afraid as we are.

Gordon has only two or three adherents here, and these are known only lately. They had not much brains, and only a certain influence; but the people do say, if they are arrested they will fight for them, and so on.

Inclosure 8 in No. 22.

Extract from a Letter of one Roman Catholic Priest to another, dated Bradfield, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, October 26, 1865.

I AM about to proceed to St. Ann's Bay. So far, it is quite remarkable how common is the idea amongst the poor blacks that the accounts in the papers of the affair in St. Thomas-in-the-East are written merely to frighten them. They evidently believe that the white men have been successfully attacked and opposed, and are now frightened throughout the island. In St. Thomas-in-the Vale, the Ranger at Charlemont was summoned, but as his case was put off till the spring, ten men came to his house at night with cutlasses, declaring they would have his life; he escaped into the bush. This happened on last Tuesday week.

On the evening of this first Tuesday, whilst I was at Charlemont, the two sons of the Ranger called, and stated to Mr. McGrath that four men threatened to take their lives; they gave the names of the persons, and said that they would rise like those in St. Thomas-in-the-East. At the Moneague the police told me that the people are fully persuaded that the rebels have not been punished, and that the reports are merely to frighten them.

I hear that men at Ocho Rios have been using most seditious language, and that the magistrates have not apprehended them. At Finger-post a man even declared that he had been at the seat of the rebellion, and that he would bring about the same state of things here.

St. Ann's Bay, 27th.—At Dr. Carter's; about to proceed onwards. Here a man has made himself notorious by pulling down the Governor's Proclamation. Nothing done to him. A volunteer declared publicly that he wished to see the Bay run with the blood of white people, &c. Nothing done. At Brown's Town I am told to expect more.

Inclosure 9 in No. 22.

The Custos of St. Ann to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Windsor, St. Ann, October* 27, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge Circular of 25th instant, and your favour of date the 26th instant.

In consequence of some reports which have come to me, and the isolated and insecure state of the building called the Arsenal, I have advised with Captain Solomon, of the Volunteers, and removed the little powder in it belonging to private individuals to the lock-up, which is nearly as unsafe, save that there is a guard there, and if the worst came it could be pitched into the sea. This building could, however, at a very trifling expense, be made very secure, and could be held by a few men for some time in case of emergency; and when the Government are less hampered than at present, I shall submit to his Excellency the expediency of such an outlay.

A number of gentlemen are desirous of forming themselves into a troop of irregular horse, if his Excellency will sanction it, and can furnish the arms, which they propose should be revolvers and sabre, such as part of the American cavalry are wholly armed with. It may be that no revolvers are at the disposal of the Government, in which case carbines might be substituted with pistols. I believe some twenty-five to thirty gentlemen are desirous of offering their services, and his Excellency's consideration is earnestly requested.

I am happy in being able to report up to the present time perfect quietude, although there are some sympathisers who would, I fear, do mischief if they could or dared.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ROYES.

P.S.—His Excellency does not state in either communication if I am authorised to accept the services of the gentlemen at Brown's Town, and am to deliver to them the arms. Please let me know by return post.

C. R.

Inclosure 10 in No. 22.

The Custos of St. Ann to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Windsor, St. Ann, October* 27, 1865.

SINCE addressing you this morning the enclosed letters have been sent me, and I deem it my duty to forward them, as the people in the Brown's Town district are very turbulent, and I have no force sufficient to quell any serious riot. How much of exaggerated alarm there may be in these reports I cannot say, but that the public mind is excited there can be no doubt, and means should be at hand to still it.

I have also to enclose the resolutions of the gentlemen who desire to form themselves into a mounted corps, and now seek his Excellency's sanction, which, if given, the corps could be formed in a week. I think it would be a very useful one, and if there were no other way to convey here the arms I am sure the gentlemen whose names are given would find the way and means to send for them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ROYES.

Inclosure 11 in No. 22.

Mr. Solomon to the Custos of St. Ann.

Sir, *St. Ann's Bay, October* 27, 1865.

I INCLOSE for your Honour's perusal a letter I have just received from Mr. F. L. Todd, one of the magistrates of this parish. Mr. Todd sent me a verbal message by a Mr. Moore two days ago, and I wrote to him requesting that he would state in writing what had come to his knowledge. The result of this is the letter now forwarded. In the present excited state of the peasantry I would respectfully suggest that Mr. Todd's letter should be forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, in order that such means may be

adopted as may seem meet to prevent any outbreak amongst or by the people, or, if it cannot be prevented, to check its progress, and to punish the offenders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) MICHAEL SOLOMON, *Clerk of the Magistrates.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 22.

Mr. Todd to Mr. Solomon.

My dear Sir, *Orange Valley, October* 27, 1865.

YOURS, per William Moore, I duly received this morning, and at your request at once hasten to respond to it. I would have written to you, instead of sending a message, but for the last few weeks my sight has been much impaired, and I can only write at night or very early in the morning. Although for some time past I have taken no apparent interest in parochial or other affairs, I never lose sight of the well-doing of the parish. Since the lamentable outbreak in the East, I have considered it my duty to use every endeavour to strain every point, in order to ascertain, if possible, the amount of disaffection or otherwise in the quarter, and I find that, as far as we are concerned here, the labourers are, for the most part, content and willing to work, but about the immediate neighbourhood of Brown's Town there is much to be feared. My spies report that the people thereabout express themselves freely "that they are only waiting for a commencement." As regards the ensuing Court they (the people) say, "Next Court day will be our day;" and one of my penkeepers even stated publicly that he intended "to be foremost in the row." The good folks at Brown's Town are undoubtedly behaving improperly, inasmuch as they allow the people to see that they fear them, and to my knowledge permit seditious language to any extent.

From all that I have been able to glean I feel sure that, unless due means are taken to prevent it, there will be a serious outbreak on the 2nd November (Court day); for, in the present excited state of the peasantry, a little beginning may lead to sad results.

I am keeping a "Black List," in which I enter every word tending to sedition, with date, witnesses, &c., which, in calmer times, I propose handing to you.

My servant went to Trelawny on Tuesday (as far as Swanswick), and was surprised at hearing the labourers so far away state that there was to be a general "rise" in Brown's Town on the 2nd November.

In re "Norman's Land" the negroes swore, without hesitation, that if they are pressed, there will be more blood spilt than in St. Thomas in the East." A vast number of reprobates, &c., spoke freely "that they wish the rebel force would arrive here, as they are quite ready to join." In fact, I think a gentle demonstration would be of immense service, not only in calming the fears of the Brown's Town storekeepers, but in subduing the rebellious intent in the negro. Should you advise me with respect to my "Black List" I shall be glad.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FREDK. L. TODD.

Inclosure 13 in No. 22.

Mr. Solomon to the Custos of St. Ann.

Sir, *St. Ann's Bay, October* 27, 1865.

AT a meeting of several gentlemen, who are desirous of forming themselves into an irregular mounted corps, I was requested to preside. It therefore devolves on me to state, that eighteen gentlemen have already enrolled themselves as members, and have suggested for their officers the following:—Captain Donald McIntoch, Lieutenant John R. Powell, Cornet E. P. Watkis, Quartermaster W. Q. Wright, who, they request, you will, if you approve of them, ask his Excellency to confirm their appointments. It will be necessary for the Captain-General to sanction the formation of the corps, and to furnish it with arms and ammunition at once, and to order a drill instructor. I therefore lose no time in forwarding a copy of the Resolution passed, so that his Excellency may be written to without delay. I forward also a list of present members, and the names expected. I write in haste to meet the post, and I have, &c.

(Signed) MICHAEL SOLOMON.

Inclosure 14 in No. 22.

List of Resolutions passed at a Meeting held at St. Ann's Bay on Friday, October 27, 1865, *for the purpose of organizing a Mounted Corps.*

1. THAT this Company be designated The St. Ann's Irregulars.
2. That his Excellency the Governor be requested to furnish the corps with arms and ammunition without delay.
3. That his Excellency be solicited to appoint a drill instructor at once.
4. That the undress of the Company shall consist of a blue Garibaldi shirt, blue trowsers, red cord, and Hessian boots.

(Signed) MICHAEL SOLOMON.

Joined:—J. J. C. James, T. B. Scott, W. Q. Wright, A. Jobson, R. Moss, H. Brown, D. McIntoch, E. P. Watkis, H. G. Delisser, J. Lewin, C. H. Smith, G. W. Gaynor, J. Passmore, G. H. Chevannes, G. W. Steer, K. Fullagar, J. R. Powell, H. J. Thompson.

Expected to join:—Messrs. Fletcher, Dunn, F. L. Todd, W. J. Todd, jun., Heath, Dobson, Campbell, Horluck, C. Royes, jun., H. Smith.

M. S.

Inclosure 15 in No. 22.

Mr. Hall to the Custos of St. Ann.

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, October* 28, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I am desired by the Governor to convey his Excellency's approval of the irregular corps being formed, as you recommend.

There are no pistols or sabres in the military stores, only smooth-bores, and no ammunition for the smooth-bores, though powder, lead, and caps could be procured.

If you have any arms you are, I am to state, at liberty to distribute them in any way you consider best to meet the exigencies of your district, provided it be to organized bodies, and not to private individuals, or to persons in detached positions.

For fear of there being no arms available, fifty stand of smooth-bores will be sent down as soon as possible, with a supply of powder, caps, and lead, and a bullet mould, which you are to apply as you think best, in arming any organized body.

If the arms are not required in St. Ann's, they can be put on board any man-of-war going to other ports to the westward, and handed over to any Custos or Senior Magistrate who requires them; the powder, lead, caps, and bullet mould, of course, to go with them.

In the event of none of the parishes requiring them, the arms and ammunition can be brought back to Kingston.

The Governor further desires me to inform you that his Excellency has requested the Major-General commanding to embark 100 troops for Dry Harbour, to be marched up to Brown's Town. The vessel will call at St. Ann's Bay, and you are requested to make the best arrangements practicable, both for housing the men at Brown's Town, and for conveying their baggage to that place from Dry Harbour.

As soon as the troops are landed, and have reached their destination, you will take the promptest and most active measures to capture and place on board ship all those who have used threatening or seditious language, where the proof is good. Such persons to be put on board the ship which takes the troops, or any man-of-war that may come into port. If no man-of-war or other Government vessel in port when captures are made, the prisoners are to be detained by the military, until the opportunity offers of shipping them.

I will request Captain De Horsey to let one of the gun-boats visit Dry Harbour for this purpose.

The evidence against each prisoner is to be carefully taken before a magistrate, and sent with the prisoner. It should be as full and complete in each case as possible.

I am further to state that Mr. Todd should be called upon at once to produce his Black List, and give all the information he can.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. J. E. HALL.

Inclosure 16 in No. 22.

Mr. Ramsay to Colonel Hunt.

Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to forward a letter just received from Captain Fyfe for his Excellency the Governor.

All in this district are getting civil and quiet. I am getting in a great deal of stolen property, and prosecute the parties before the Courts-martial. I don't think any of the ringleaders in Morant Bay affray are out of this district, although I cannot say whether the promoters are caught. I am getting back the old arms taken from the police; but they are useless.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. D. RAMSAY,
Inspector of Police.

Inclosure 17 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Sir, *Bellisle, Grange Hill, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE to submit for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Executive Committee, that the post which was due here at 5 o'clock P.M. on Friday did not arrive until 6 o'clock P.M. on Saturday; consequently the "Fawn" was in the port of Savanna la Mar before I received your letter informing me that she would be despatched with troops, arms, and ammunition. Captain Talbot landed the troops about 6 o'clock on Saturday, and they were placed in the Court-house for the night.

I was in the town by 7 o'clock on Sunday morning, and had them removed to a house at the head of the town, where they have comfortable quarters.

I afterwards conferred with Captain Talbot as to the precautionary measures I contemplated taking to prevent any disturbance of the peace at the opening of the Circuit Court this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJ. VICKERS.

P.S.—I am just from the Court; all is quiet, but few people in the town. The Bluefields people are to be down, I hear, to-morrow.

B. V.

Inclosure 18 in No. 22.

Mr. Jordon to the Editor of the "Tribune" Newspaper.

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, October* 30, 1865.

HIS Excellency the Governor having noticed in your paper of this day's date a statement purporting to be an account of the destruction of Her Majesty's ship "Bulldog" by the Haytiens, which is altogether a perversion of facts, and calculated to do extreme injury in this colony by misleading the black population into the supposition that people of their own race have been able to destroy one of Her Majesty's ships of war, I have to request that the statement be contradicted in to-morrow's paper, and the true version, which in substance will be seen in the other papers, given.

His Excellency takes this opportunity of intimating that in the existing state of the island, and with so many and grave responsibilities regarding the safety of life and property attaching to the Government, it will be impossible to allow newspapers to circulate mis-statements calculated to excite the people, or to stimulate them to an erroneous impression of their own power of coping with Her Majesty's naval or military forces. And it is essential to inform you that you must exercise a discreet caution in publishing news, and not give to the public unauthenticated statements such as that referred to, and which are altogether unfounded and incorrect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Governor's Secretary.*

Inclosure 19 in No. 22.

Mr. Lyon to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Lucea, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated the 26th instant, intimating that a company of soldiers would be sent here forthwith; none have as yet arrived, and the town is still in great excitement, as in case of emergency there are weapons of no kind with which to arm ourselves for protection.

Matters look doubtful in respect to the peace of the community, as last evening a letter, copy of which is inclosed, was picked up opposite the police station by a man named Bernard. The justices have offered a reward of fifty dollars to any party giving information as to the writer of the article. A letter from Mr. Hutchinson, Wesleyan Catechist in this town, has just been handed to me, which I inclose for his Excellency's consideration.

The prisoner Robinson, together with all the depositions connected with his case, will be forwarded by the first vessel of war to Kingston.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JACOB LYON, *Acting Senior Magistrate.*

Inclosure 20 in No. 22.

Mr. Hutchinson to Mr. Lyon.

Dear Sir, *Wesleyan Mission House, Lucea, October* 30, 1865.

HAVING been informed that secret religious meetings are being held in this neighbourhood, under the name of "revival meetings," and that such meetings are held all night, and that persons come from a great distance to attend them, I have enquired of some of the religious bodies in this town, and am led to believe they are unauthorised by any body of Christians. This is to inform you of the same; and while I believe these people to be without any evil design, at the same time I believe them to be just the material for evil-disposed persons to work on, and that their religious fanaticism might soon be changed to rebellious furor.

I would advise that his Excellency be informed of the same, and recommend that a stop should be put to all meetings that are not appointed by religious societies acknowledged by the island as such.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure 21 in No. 22.

Letter picked up opposite the Police Station, Lucea.

TO the town of Lucea, gentlemen of the parish,—I am sorry to inform you that if the taxes be not reduce it will be like Gog and Magog to battle, for we will try our uttermost endeavours to do either one thing or the other. We only give you notice; and if no heed from now to the holidays, we will accomplish our work—we will not be like those people at St. Thomas go to work so foolish. We are told that H. G. Henry will not sell any powder, but we do not care about that; we will get brimstone and fire, and we will luminate the town in a moment, and then when we are finish we do not care what become of us after. As to say that a war will broke out, you may rest assure it will broke out if no alteration. The people in the interior is ready, only the people in Hanover is keeping them back. You ought to see the fleet that was down here some weeks ago, and I must needs talk the truth, it was a good thing that the Court-house was shut up or it might have ended by this, but it is not too late for it as yet.

Inclosure 22 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Belleisle, Grange Hill, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that, in compliance with instructions contained in your letter of 25th instant, I have directed Mr. Inspector Casey, on all occasions, to keep double sentries over the arms in

the police-station, while a portion of his men may be attending the Circuit Court, and shall not allow the police to be sent out in small detachments, in the event of its being necessary to send them out with arms.

I may here remark that I have instructed the police to wear their side-arms while in attendance on the Circuit Court, under the prevalent excitement of the people.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJN. VICKERS.

Inclosure 23 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Savanna la Mar, Jamaica, October* 30, 1865, 4 P.M.

I HAVE to submit, for the infermation of his Excellency the Governor, that all is perfectly tranquil in this town, and that there are not so many persons in the Court-house as is usual during the sitting of the Circuit Court. I had, however, been previously apprised that the people of the Bluefields district would not be in the town until to-morrow, as they knew the trial "Regina *v.* Tate" and others could not come on to-day.

I have the Volunteers assembled at the Lee wharf on the beach, and the troops that arrived by the "Fawn" are placed at the head of the town, but no force is displayed: a part of the police and a few rural constables being alone in attendance at or near the Court-house; the remainder of the police are in charge of the arms at the station.

I had previously arranged with Captain Talbot that it would be useless to land any of his men unless a necessity should arise, which would instantly be done, as well as from the "Lily," Captain Heneage, still in our port.

I may here remark that I convened a Special Sessions of the Peace in the Bluefields district on Friday last for the purpose of swearing in special constables, when only two persons in the disaffected districts came forward to be sworn in that capacity, while in other districts special constables have been enrolled in large numbers.

I have just left the Court in order to send forward this communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJN. VICKERS.

Inclosure 24 in No. 22.

Major-General Jackson to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Mahogany Vale, October* 31, 1865.

I DEEM it my duty to report to you, that the remnant of the rebels of St. Thomas in the east are retreating by routes I pointed out some ten or twelve days ago they would take, namely, through St. David's into Port Royal, and then *viâ* the Yallahs River, northward, into the fastnesses of St. George's, and westerly by the Jew River and the Barbicue River into that district of the parish of Port Royal, south of Flamstead, commonly called Dallas, a district I have long known to be considered as the nest of blackguards and seditiously inclined characters.

By the first route, viz., the Yallahs River, after passing Mahogany Vale, opposite which are the only roads the rebels can descend into the Yallahs from St. Davids in flying from St. Thomas in the East towards St. George's (Chesterfield), a stone's throw from Mahogany Vale; Green Valley, about half a mile from Mahogany Vale; they have every facility, both from the nature of the country, settlements of blacks and tenantry on thrown up properties, to escape into St. Georges by St. Helen's Gap, miles from any police-station.

By the second route, they pass along the Jew River, south of Tower Hill Village, through the Orchard Gap, my own property, very strong defiles into Dallas; 2nd. *viâ* the Barbecue River north of Bloxburg, through strong defiles by Trafalgar Gap, and then south of Ross Valley by blind paths into Dallas.

It is true that there is a third road through St. David's north of the Yallahs River, by which it is just possible a few rebels might accidentally escape into St. George's; this road runs directly under Sherwood Forest Works, Racknor Works, Abbey Green Great House, andFarm Hill, Overseer's House, all of which are strongly occupied by owners and overseers, and the road is well exposed to view.

Yesterday four of the fugitive rebels from St. Thomas-in-the-East were captured,

two in the Ayton Woods opposite Mahogany Vale and on the left bank of the Yallahs, and two on the right bank of the river above Mahogany Vale.

Had a small detachment of troops been stationed on the right bank of the Yallahs, so as to command the roads from St. David's and at Resource, where there is accommodation for the men, with an outflying picket of police at St. Helen's Gap and David's Hill, near which there is a cave, the retreat of the rebels into St. George's would have been effectually cut off.

From my local knowledge and experience, there is little doubt upon my mind that the inhabitants of the parish of St. David's have been affording every facility to the escape of the rebels from St. Thomas-in-the-East. Testimony was adduced that Paul Bogle, in inciting those in St. Thomas-in the-East to rise, in a harangue said, "Should you be faint-hearted, I have only to cross over into St. David's, where I shall find strong and firm hearts." A lady was most grossly insulted at Arntully, in St. David's, in language she could not repeat, and taunted that all the whites would be made to fly. The labourers on Arntully, led by a man by the name of White, suddenly struck work at mid-day on Tuesday week without any assigned reason. It is to be extremely regretted the opportunity was not seized to make an example in St. David's by a severe flogging. The speech of Paul Bogle, the treatment of the lady, and the conduct of the labourers on Arntully, are but a piece of the seditious meeting of black men held in St. David's on the Underhill letter, and led by the rebel leaders Samuel and B. Clerke, lately hanged.

With regard to the mountain district of the parish of Port Royal, I would respectfully suggest a little attention to the reports in the "Guardian" newspaper. Taken with the conduct of the present leaders of the journal, they are evidently to serve a political dodge. The writers of the reports from these districts are demagogues in the strict sense of the word, and were the most intimate associates of the rebel Thomas Harry, the shoemaker, in Kingston, who was arrested, sent to Morant Bay, and I understand since hanged. Constant visits of T. Harry to this district previous to the outbreak of the rebellion had roused my suspicions on his objects. The demagogues were in the habit of holding night meetings; and previous to the late election of a Coroner for the parish a meeting was held at the house of one John Thomas, and I was informed by a black man that it was then and there decided that whoever might be proposed by the whites should be strenuously opposed by the blacks, which they accordingly did, one of the demagogues entering a protest.

W. Stephen Henry, Deputy Collector of Dues, lately appointed Head Constable, was the man who egged on Thomas Harry, the shoemaker, at a luncheon after the last vestry at Guava Ridge, in a violent and impertinent address to the Chief Magistrate, the Custos of the parish, and which led to something next to a riot in the Court-house, and had I been present on his election as Chief Constable I would have strongly opposed it on these grounds. I view his visit to the district of Dallas, as reported in the "Guardian," in anything but a favourable light. There are seditiously disposed characters in the parish upon whom I am keeping a watch.

I suggested to the officer in command of the troops that all blacks in possession of fire-arms should be called on to deliver them up, under penalty, to the nearest military post or magistrate. Perhaps your Excellency may deem this suggestion worthy of consideration.* I further suggested that no special constables should be sworn in unless in possession of a certain number of acres and holding title-deeds; a register of them to be kept, which might be checked by reference to the Records in Spanish Town in case of fraud. The necessity of this precaution is proved by two rebels having been sworn in. Under martial law the Commander of the troops in a district being the supreme authority, I did not swear in a single special constable, there being no rules for my guidance, and I could not approve of swearing in a *posse* of men indiscriminately.

On my return from St. Thomas in the East, through ten days' ducking, I was struck down with a severe attack of rheumatism, depriving me of the use of my right arm and hand, and am therefore compelled to employ an amanuensis, as I do not consider that it would be judicious that your Excellency should remain ignorant of the passing of the rebels into St. George's and Dallas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FORBES JACKSON.

P.S.—Your Excellency has struck off the head of the rebellion as by a flash of lightning, but like its type, the serpent, the pieces are still writhing to unite, and no faith can be placed in the black race of the Island of Jamaica.

* This suggestion was latterly carried out with the force.

A post on the right bank of the Yallahs, say at Windsor Lodge, would not only check the passage of the rebels from St. David's, but hold in awe the strong settlements of Somerset Vale and Easy Mind, south of Mahogany Vale, east of Dallas, with which both have an easy communication.

F. J.

Governor's Minute.

FORWARD to Colonel Fyfe, in order that if he thinks there are any good grounds for supposing that any rebels of importance are hid amongst the Dallas or other districts adverted to, he may, in his route down with the Maroons, have those districts searched.

I do not myself apprehend there is much cause for alarm in the attempts made by a few of the persons concerned in the late rebellion to escape, and I greatly question their ability either to do much harm themselves or to stir up others to do it.

November 2, 1865. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Minute by Mr. Fyfe.

Eleven miles from St. David's, November 5, 1865.

GENERAL JACKSON is a high authority on military matters, and if a great battle had been fought in St. Thomas in the East and a defeated army, trying to escape, in small parties, through bye-paths and defiles, for the purpose of concentrating and stirring up disaffection in other districts, his letter would furnish a perfect plan for defeating the attempt, but unfortunately, or rather fortunately, there is nothing of the kind. A rebellion has been crushed, and a few of the rebels who have either not heard of or are not embraced in the amnesty are, perhaps, flying in ones, twos, and threes to escape death. My own opinion is that they will carry, wherever they go, the terror by which they are inspired, and that their presence will do good instead of harm. Perhaps, pressed by hunger, they may for a time be heard of stopping people on the roads and taking provisions from them, but this will show their haunts and lead to their apprehension.

On receiving his Excellency's reference on my way from Bath to Morant Bay yesterday morning, I determined on stopping in St. Davids's and inquiring into the facts. I sent two constables late last night to tell six of the Dallas people to be at my door at daylight this morning. They were waiting for me at dawn. I informed them of the report, and told them significantly that I did not wish to take the Maroons through their district, as they generally left traces of their path wherever they went, but that I would do so if I heard of one rebel being harboured there. I then administered an oath of allegiance to suit the case. I directed these to communicate with other leading men of Bloxburgh, Jew River, Mocho, and Windsor Forest and River Head, so as to establish a watch along that line, calling themselves "Colonel Fyfe's" party. This they promised to do, begging me not to bring the Maroons.

Since writing the above I have seen Mr. Henry Mais, who has done all that was requisite in this vicinity. He has apprehended several; some of whom were sent to Morant Bay and executed. There is not the slightest cause for apprehension.

(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

Inclosure 25 in No. 22.

The Custos of St. Ann to Governor Eyre.

Dear Sir, *Windsor, St. Ann, October* 31, 1865.

I ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks your Excellency's communication of 29th instant, and can easily imagine how many urgent cases must, in this trying time, beset you; nor would I have willingly increased them but for the strong opinions formed by the gentlemen at or near Brown's Town, believing, however, that there is much of exaggeration at once pervading these reports. Still, my duty was clear and plain, and I have no doubt but that the demonstration will have a good effect, as there can be no doubt but that the seeds of this horrible conspiracy are plentifully sown, and, I fear, will never be eradicated unless a very different course of action is pursued, and the political and unprincipled agitation against the Government subdued.

I shall proceed to Brown's Town myself to-morrow, first to see that the troops are as comfortable as so small a place will admit, and, secondly, to examine carefully Mr. Todd's black-list, and the evidence to support it. To create uneasiness and alarm on mere suspicion or hearsay would be very bad policy, and I apprehend that, when put to the test, Mr. Todd's spies may not be found entirely trustworthy.

We are very quiet, and many, very many, are anxious to show their loyalty, but I do not think that even these would actively come forward should the emergency unhappily arise.

I may be permitted to add that the whole country is warm in its grateful approval of your Excellency's promptitude and firmness in this the worst blow Jamaica has ever received.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ROYES.

Inclosure 26 in No. 22.

The Hon. S. Rennalls to Mr. W. R. Myers.

My dear Sir, *October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE no hesitation in writing to you, to say that the undercurrent that exists in the above Rocks, St. Thomas' Vale, the large portion of Metcalfe adjoining thereto, about Highgate (I believe in St. Mary's), and in St. Andrew's—viz., Cavaliers' and Stoney Hill—arises at the present time from the fact of the Rev. Mr. Roach having become implicated in the late rebellion in St. Thomas in the East. In this part of the island Mr. Roach has been well known as schoolmaster or teacher, preacher, Wesleyan, Pennockite, or otherwise. There is a great adherence towards him by the vast number in those districts ageing from 12, 14, to 25 years, and until his apprehension every class of inhabitants in my neighbourhood were apparently feeling secure that the rebellion would not extend in our locality (St. Faith's district); but immediately that Mr. Roach became involved, as he appears to have done, there is no certainty as to what the declaration in his favour and in the cause of rebellion may be, extending, as it no doubt will, from Kingston to those localities I allude to. I write this as not of myself, but from the fears I have heard expressed by prominent Wesleyen leaders and others, in my opinion, able to judge of passing events. I believe their apprehensions arise from expressions made to Mr. Roach by members of his various congregations, that "nothing shall happen to him but that they will see to it."

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAM. RENNALLS.

Inclosure 27 in No. 22.

The Custos of Port Maria to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Port Maria, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that, this morning, the transport "Urgent" landed forty men of the 2nd West India Regiment. I have stationed them in part of the Court-house.

Colonel Whitfield, who landed with the troops, expressed himself quite satisfied with the quarters, and the officers have taken quarters next the Court-house, so that all express themselves satisfied.

I shall use my best exertions to so manage that all will go on smoothly, and in a few days return to town.

I have the honour to state that, having so few as seven policemen here on duty, at a special Session of the Peace it was determined to attach fourteen picked rural constables to the police, under control of the Inspector for Police Duty.

I hope this proceeding will meet the approval of his Excellency the Governor.

I have so stationed the troops in the Court-house that it will not interfere with the holding of the courts, which I advise should be proceeded with as usual.

I am happy to state that I see no disposition on the part of the people to occasion any trouble.

The inhabitants, I believe, are now reassured, and have good cause to be thankful

to his Excellency for the protection afforded them. I hope, under the care of Divine Providence, St. Mary will be spared the horrors of any outbreak.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. J. LINDO, *Custos.*

P.S.—I quite omitted to state the gun-boat "Steady" called in here yesterday afternoon, and left this morning at 6 o'clock. I visited her; the moral effect was evident.

A. J. L.

Inclosure 28 in No. 22.

The Custos of Manchester to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Brumelia, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that this parish continues in a state of peace and order, and the inhabitants generally feel very indignant at the atrocities committed in St. Thomas in the East.

The Justices in special session at Mandeville on the 28th instant decided that the whole of the No. 1 Company of Volunteers be continued on duty at Mandeville until some communication be received from the Governor directing their being continued or otherwise, or if not what number should be continued to guard the arms and ammunition.

I have to report the safe arrival yesterday at Mandeville of twenty stand of arms and ammunition for the police, and have issued instructions for the safe keeping of the arms according to your circular, 25th October, 1865.

Also the receipt of forty swords and belts for Captain Heron's troop.

I herewith beg to inclose Captain Heron's letter reccommending certain gentlemen as officers for the mounted corps under his command.

I also inclose a requisition I have received from most of the influential inhabitants and proprietors in the southern district of the parish. The police force is at present so small to be quite inadequate, but I beg to represent that the force is divided to be most efficient in all parts, and I await the Governor's instructions. I beg also to inclose a communication from Rev. A. Lindo, also Swaby, with a number of white immigrants' signatures attached. These parties I had examined on Saturday, and it appears the parties suspected reside in St. Anns, on the borders of Manchester.

I have several complaints of nightly meetings, and rolling of drums and blowing shells, and beg to have his Excellency's instructions how I am to act.

(Signed) J. R. HOLLINGSWORTH.

Inclosure 29 in No. 22.

Requisition.

To the Hon. J. R. Hollingsworth, Custos of Manchester.

WE, the undersigned magistrates and other inhabitants of the southern district of the parish, beg respectfully to represent to your Honour that there are at present throughout the whole district only three policemen, who are stationed at Wigton; that a very large proportion of the district comprising Pusey Hill, Victoria Town, Grove Town, and other populous settlements, is entirely without any protection; and to call upon your Honour to take the requisite measures for having an adequate force stationed in the most suitable locality.

(Signed)

Alex. C. Logan.
Chas. E. Chevers, *J.P.*
George Miles, *J.P.*
C. Smith, *J.P.*
Julius Lewis, *J.P.*
Joseph Stewart, *J.P.*
William Hungerford.
Thos. Sweetland.
R. W. Swan.
E. Weiss.
R. Smith.
E. A. Sloss.
J. L. Brown.
E. Angell.
A. Whyte.
David Crawford.
J. S. Hildebrand, *Island Curate.*
Theodore Bounce.
James Lewis.
James Hutchinson.
Arthur H. Seymour, *I.S.C.*
G. H. Logan.
George Johnson.
Alfred S. Myers.
Danl. V. Sutherland.
Robt. Muschett.
Kennedy Crawford.
Thomas Wint.
Joseph Peart.
Thomas Whyte.
A. C. Hasland.

Inclosure 30 in No. 22.

The Rev. A. Lindo to Mr. Hollingsworth.

Sir, *Whitefield Mission House, Station Porus, October* 25, 1865.

THERE is a dense population in this village and its neighbourhood, and in times like the present one cannot but feel some anxiety on account of the defenceless condition of the place. This anxiety is increased by the fact that a large proportion of the peasantry has not been under the most salutary influence.

It may be necessary to state that because of my opposition to the Underhill Meetings recently held in this village, certain persons have threatened to do me serious bodily injury. Their names have not transpired, but the report of their intention is extensively circulated.

I may also state that on Saturday evening last a large assemblage of men with sticks was seen in front of the rum shop which is kept on the Baptist Mission premises here. These men, inflamed by drink, might not always disperse as peaceably as on this occasion—an outbreak might be the consequence. I believe, that should such a circumstance occur, many worthless disaffected characters would join in it, and thus valuable lives might be lost ere needed assistance be rendered.

I represent these things to you in the hope that some action might be taken in the matter, and some protection afforded to the loyal inhabitants of this place in case of emergency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEXANDER LINDO, *London Missionary.*

Inclosure 31 in No. 22.

The Rev. F. Swaby to the Custos of Manchester.

Sir, *Mount Olivet, October* 28, 1865.

I BEG to call your attention to a circumstance which has come to my knowledge, which I think may be of importance to you as head of this parish.

Information has been given to me by my neighbour, Mr. Webbe, and other white emigrants, that assemblies of persons from St. Ann's Parish are taking place near their residence, and they are fearful these gatherings may be for evil.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK SWABY,
Presbyterian Minister.

We certify the above to be correct from our own knowledge.

(Signed) Thomas Evans.
William Webbe.
John Reynolds.
Stephen Harris.
Jeffrey Martin.
James Harris.
James Sewell.
Thomas Allin.

Inclosure 32 in No. 22.

Mr. Salmon to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Malvern, October* 31, 1865.

MEETINGS, I am informed, have been called at several places by a Mr. Plummer, a Mr. Brydson (a magistrate), and a man Gilling, of this parish, of the inhabitants and small settlers, black and coloured. The persons attending are informed that the growers of produce are imposed upon and cheated.

To enable the small proprietor to receive a full value for his produce a Commercial and Agricultural Association is said to be formed, and shares are offered and recommended, value 5*l.* each, by which the shareholder is to realize the value of his exports through the hands of the above-named persons, who constitute themselves the managers.

On a sufficient sum being subscribed Brydson informs the meetings he is to go to England to take all the money subscribed, which, if enough, is to purchase a vessel and bring out goods the members of the Association require, and which they are to obtain at a much less price than they are sold for in the stores.

The object of the managers of this Association is to press Dr. Underhill's statements, that the negro is cheated in the value of the produce he has to dispose of, that he has no opportunity of sending his produce to the home markets.

The carrying out such object will materially injure general society, as the members of the Association are to pledge themselves not to dispose of any oil nuts, oil, coffee, ginger, or other produce to any white person; it will foster and continue distrust and suspicion, and prevent the intercourse at present profitable to all. Its result can easily be foreseen, the consequences will be disastrous to the members, and may be also troublesome to the peace of the district, for the small settler will be cheated out of his subscription, and also his produce, by men of straw, who have no capital and no character entitling them to conduct such an undertaking even if it were legitimate and honest. It is so barefaced an attempt as not to be mistaken for a piece of rascality.

Is the Association at such a time as the present, and the meetings, legal? The people are ignorant, and only the other day were represented as suffering so dreadfully from the drought that they had nothing to eat, and now are called on to provide 5*l.* each to be admitted to the prospective benefits to arrive under the management of Brydson, Plummer, and Gilling. To obtain this amount to purchase a share in the Association, men are desirous of selling horses or what they may possess or have disposable, and they will be swindled.

Perhaps your Excellency would direct me to be informed what course would be legal or right at such a time. I have had several coloured people applying to me as to what they should do. I have told them I believe they will be swindled, but they are dissatisfied and fretted, and kept unsettled, and say they should be told "if the thing be good, and for their good; or bad, and to take their money."

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN SALMON.

P.S.—The post has just brought the circular, King's House, 27th October.

I shall wait the return post on Friday morning next 3rd proximo, in case your Excellency should think I ought to do anything in the volunteer appointment at Malvern, or any other direction which would prevent my being in my place the first week of Council. I am afraid we are in a very uneasy position,

J. S.

Inclosure 33 in No. 22.

Attorney-General's Opinion.

November 2, 1865.

I SEE nothing illegal in the proposed Association. Trade is free and ought to be so. It is very certain however, that a dead loss will accrue to all the shareholders, even supposing the managers to be perfectly honest, and even if they give their services gratuitously. But as by foolish or wicked counsels the small producers seem to have lost confidence in the mercantile capitalists, I know no better way of enabling them to find out their own blunders than that they should try their experiment. Even if, by an extraordinary rise in the produce-market, the first attempt should be successful, a very little further trial will restore the equilibrium of educated common sense.

And no time better than the present could be chosen, when there is a strong force in the country to preserve the peace against any attempt against it which should arise from the dissatisfaction of the industrious producers at the result of their own folly.

If the Custos and other gentlemen of position unconnected with trade and commerce were to explain to the intended shippers the length of time that must elapse before they can have any returns or advances on their shipments for the interest of the invested capital of the shareholders, the rate of insurance of ship and outward and homeward cargo, the difficulty of selecting the latter for each shipper, or the otherwise inevitable necessity of establishing another Association for the sale of their imports and the expenses of sailing their ship, port dues, import duties, seamen's wages, long credits, and bad debts, it is not unlikely that the sway of common sense will prevail, and the proposed Society become an abortion. If it should really succeed, which, I think, no reasonably well-educated man can conceive to be possible, so much the better for the benefit of honest competition and the general good. Viewed in its most favourable light, this is a

miserable repetition of the French organization of labour under Fourrier, or of Owen in England, twenty-five years ago.

There is no occasion for legal preventive measures to prevent the objects avowed.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP.

Inclosure 34 in No. 22.

Statement of John Muirhead.

St. Elizabeth.

THE information of John Muirhead, residing at Unity in this parish, taken before me, Henry Lawrence, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for this parish, who states that about the second week in August last, one Ann Minley did at Unity, and in my presence, make use of the following language—" That if war ever come and she could handle a gun, but as she cannot, that she would sharpen pegs, and the first person she would attack would be Mr. Lawrence, and when she had jammed his eyes out she would go into his shop and take out what she likes."

He further states that about a week after the above date one Joseph Miller did in his hearing state, that of all the buckras that he should like to kill would be that old grey beard Mr. Salmon, meaning our Custos. This took place at Unity, about 21st or 22nd August last. On Wednesday last the 17th October, I heard the same Joseph Miller state that he had heard that the police were being murdered, and that they were served well right, for they were too damned fast, and that they took more liberties than buckra gave them; and if he had the will of them he would chop off their heads, as them other ones are being done yonder.

(Signed) JOHN MUIRHEAD.

Sworn before me this 24th day of October, 1865, at Almstoke, and that the same was read over to him.

(Signed) HENRY LAWRENCE, *J.P., St. Elizabeth.*

Inclosure 35 in No. 22.

Statement of S. J. Stone.

Jamaica, ss., St. Elizabeth.

BE it remembered, that on the 23rd day of October, in the year of Our Lord 1865, at New Market Store, in the said parish aforesaid, cometh before me, Theodore Stone, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices assigned to keep the peace in and for the said parish of St. Elizabeth, and complaineth to and informeth me on oath, that heretofore, to wit on the 23rd day of October, 1865, at the parish aforesaid, one William Carr, alias Price Carr, did publicly threaten to take the life of complainant, to burn down the store of S. J. Manley, his employer, also the village of Newcastle and New Savanna.

(Signed) S. J. STONE.

Sworn before me this 23rd day of October, 1865, at Newmarket, in the parish of St. Elizabeth aforesaid, having been first read and explained to deponent.

(Signed) S. STONE, *J.P.*

Inclosure 36 in No. 22.

The Custos of Westmoreland to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Savanna la Mar, November* 2, 1865.

IN addition to the disaffection already reported to prevail in the Bluefields district of this parish, I have now to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that a similar feeling of disloyalty seems prevalent in the remote interior, that is, in the district of Seaford Town, distant some twenty-five miles from this town.

I inclose a letter received from W. H. Cooke, Esq., on the subject; also a list of special constables who came forward to be sworn in at their own request on the 26th ultimo in consequence of the significant nightly meetings of the negroes of that district.

His Excellency will learn from the Executive Committee the particulars of Seaford Town, a settlement of Germans on lands given by the late Lord Seaford after the rebellion 1832.

I had no hesitation in complying with the request made by Colonel Cooke for arms to place in the hands of the Germans and others named in the accompanying list, and yesterday morning I requested Captain Farquharson to send forward forty stand of arms with ammunition, &c., under a proper escort of volunteers. They were delivered at Mackfield to Colonel Cooke, who, with the gentlemen of the interior and a body of the Germans, were there to receive them. I also sent by the escort several of the Amnesty Proclamations to be placarded in that remote district.

I may here remark that almost every negro in the Seaford Town district have their own small freeholds. In the plain of the parish the utmost tranquillity seems to prevail, and all work is being performed on the estates as usual.

I inclose a copy of letter received from Daniel Sinclair, one of the senior magistrates residing in the Bluefields district, relative to the excitement of the people.

I have left the Court in order to write this letter. The case for the prosecution in Regina *v.* Tate and others was closed yesterday, and the defence opened this morning, and from the great array of lawyers engaged I doubt if the trial will be closed to-day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJ. VICKERS.

Inclosure 37 in No. 22.

Mr. Cooke to the Custos of Westmoreland.

Sir, *Savanna la Mar, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE just received an express messenger from the interior corroborating the statement I made to you this morning that meetings have been held in the Kew Park district at night, or before day in the morning.

The Rev. Mr. Anderson came to my house this morning, stating that there was evidently something going on, for that there has been a great deal of shell and horn-blowing at night all around him, and if I had been at home he would have told me of a great many significant speeches made in reference to the affair that now agitates the country. I have sworn in upwards of sixty special constables, most of them Germans from Seaford Town, and it is in this immediate neighbourhood that Mr. Anderson resides. I am the Colonel of the western interior district. A number of the men sworn in as special constables have served under me, and I can depend on them. I want at least forty stand of arms if I am to take any action in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. COOKE, *J.P.*

Inclosure 38 in No. 22.

Mr. Sinclair to the Custos of Westmoreland.

My dear Sir, *New Shafeton, October* 30, 1865.

I BEG to state for your information and consideration whether it would not be prudent, in the case of Mr. Tate's acquittal, to send protection over to Bluefields for Mr. Tate and Mr. Bourke's houses, as I am told the people in the district are determined to burn down these houses if he is acquitted. A boat might be ready to take over a few troops immediately after the trial. If condemned there would be no occasion to send them.

To show the feeling that still exists, I have only to mention the fact that at the Petty Sessions held at Bluefield on Friday last, there was only one man from Belmont, and that one Mr. Tate's head man, came to be sworn in as a special constable, and from Mount Airey and Macalpine one only. There were others present, but refused to be sworn. The Macalpine people acknowledge that they were in the habit of mustering at Mount Edgecombe Common in the evenings since the month of June last with bamboo and wooden guns and swords, but that they were only doing so for their own amusement. Mr. Tate tells me that he can produce proof that the Belmont people were mustering also. I am myself an invalid just now, but I attended the Special Sessions and presided at it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DANIEL SINCLAIR.

Inclosure 39 in No. 22.

List of Men sworn in as Special Constables by W. H. Cooke, J.P. for Westmoreland.

Names.	Calling.	Value of Property.	Age.	Colour.
		£		
Christian F. Somers	German	100	57	White.
Auguste Somers	do.	500	45	do.
Henry Haké	do.	400	38	do.
William Brown	do.	200	50	do.
Fredk. Wemire	do.	150	35	do.
Chas. Wemire	do.	100	38	do.
Wm. Groscoph	do.	200	42	do.
Wm. Somers	do.	200	18	do.
Edwd. Busso	do.	30	23	do.
Augustus Sleeper	do.	200	17	do.
Henry Wemire	do.	150	25	do.
Ferdinand Bishopp	do.	200	20	do.
Wm. Eldermire	do.	250	18	do.
Ludovic Kirchner	do.	100	28	do.
Fredk. Sempler	do.	100	28	do.
John Gardiner	do.	30	23	do.
Auguste Rameké	do.	300	29	do.
Saml. Gardiner	do.	50	20	do.
Fredk. Bunniman	do.	200	29	do.
Henry Rameké	do.	100	24	do
Chas. Rameké	do.	50	32	do.
Chas. Rimann	do.	300	40	do.
James Grierson	Carpenter	500	56	Brown.
Wm. Grierson	do.	30	28	do.
John H. James	do.	200	31	do.
Hugh Patrick	Domestic	100	33	do.
Php. Anglin	do.	300	27	do.
John Golimore	Penkeeper	100	56	Black.
James Gordon	Labourer	50	35	do.
Roman Thompson	do.	30	33	Brown.
Wm. Reid	Headman	150	55	Black.
Alexr. Cooke	Settler	200	50	do.
Php. D. McKiel	Carpenter	30	33	Brown.
Thomas Brown	do.	200	48	Black.
Park S. Reid	Labourer	30	30	do.
Wm. W. Columb	do.	100	21	Brown.
Albert Days	do.	30	22	do.
James Hayle	do.	50	40	Black.
Lambert Fraser	do.	200	39	do.
George Gordon	Mason	50	66	do.
Robert Wilkins	Labourer	40	33	do.
John Davies	do.	50	29	do.
Thomas Peters	do.	30	40	do.
John Cooke	Blacksmith	30	26	Brown.
Jacob Hedley	Labourer	50	25	do.
Saml. Hibbert	do.	40	24	Black.
Robert Mitchell	do.	30	45	do.
James McG. Thorpe	do.	100	66	do.
Saml. Kelly	do.	30	50	do.
John Gale	do.	100	35	do.
William Scarlett	do.	30	32	do.
John H. James	do.	40	24	do.
Willm. Cunninghame	do.	150	70	do.
James G. James	Saddler	30	30	do.
Richd. Hayle	Settler	50	32	Brown.
Danl. J. Hayle	do.	100	22	do.
Robert Ewlett	do.	20	22	do.
Edwd. Barrett	Labourer	30	30	Black.
Allen Little	Servant	30	24	Brown.
George R. Chambers	Carpenter	200	33	do.
Saml. Tennent	Settler	100	33	do.
Robert Dove	do.	50	32	Black.
Richd. E. Lawrence	do.	50	32	do.
Willm. Fraser	Labourer	300	60	do.
William Hylton	Settler	350	50	do.
Jas. Smith	Carpenter	300	45	Brown.
Edwd. Lawrence	Settler	50	55	Black.

Sworn in before me, at the Hermitage, on the 26th October, 1865.
(Signed) W. H. Cooke.

Inclosure 40 in No. 22.

Statement of Mr. Parry, County Engineer for Roads in Surry.

HE heard from a correspondent in St. Ann's that several persons, especially two named Rodney and Burton, or Benton, at St. Ann's Bay, are turbulent dangerous characters, members of or connected with a society called the Underhill Convention. And that people at Ocho Rios, in the same parish of St. Ann, talk openly they wish the war would come down there.

Inclosure 41 in No. 22.

Statement of Samuel Hunter, Servant of the Hon. S. W. Mais.

TOLD his master he heard at Orange Valley (Mr. Kerr's place in Trelawny), about seven miles from Falmouth, on Friday and Saturday, 6th and 7th October, people talking, saying a war would break out in about three weeks' time, to begin at Montego Bay, and go round the island; then buckra would see hell.

Inclosure 42 in No. 22.

Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Salmon.

Sir,

ANNEXED I send you the information of Mr. Muirhead, residing at Unity, and hope you will take such steps for the immediate apprehension of both parties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY LAWRENCE.

Minute by Mr. Salmon.

THIS man Carr is represented as a great scoundrel by the Magistrates and residents of the neighbourhood of the village of Newcastle, constantly riotous, and defying the authorities.

Should this man be forwarded by ship of war, calling at Black River, and affidavits of the charges against him? There is no doubt in the minds of those who know him that he would have carried out his threats if opportunity had offered.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos of St. Elizabeth.

Minute by Mr. Salmon.

WHAT course should be pursued with these people, if any proceedings? The trying them at Petty Court and sentencing them to Mandeville Jail for three or six months, would do little good, if not harm. The part of the parish they reside in was the great place for the nightly meetings; they are still held, but for what intent I cannot make out.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos of St. Elizabeth.

Inclosure 43 in No. 22.

Anonymous Letter to the Custos of Kingston.

To the Custos of this City.

WE tell you of what happen in St. Thomas-in-the-East; that the Governor sent to shot every man and woman, old and young, and to burn down every house. That it is a damn shame to see this, but God will save them from the second death the innocent ones them, Lord save them.

This Governor send men to shot without law, not to seek for the rebels alone and the rioters. We let you know this, and to believe this as St. Thomas-in-the-East burn down where we get the best of yam produce. What is the use we live again, for we will starve to death almost, and our best black men are going to shot. Well, Sir, it is but one death, as Mr. G. W. Gordon is gone, the poor man's friend, for in the House not a man remember the poor man. Well, we will burn down the town down to the ground, and kill you and kill oursclves if you don't bring back every man you take away from Kingston. We don't care of our lives or your lives or property. Not all the soldiers or men-of-war ships can do good. We will bring judgment to Jamaica at once, at once.

If you like your lives, bring them back at once. If you guard the whole of the town self but it burn down; you think you can treat black .

If you bring the whole of England soldiers we don't care, for we will determine for death and for judgment, and let and let others from afar come and inherit the bye and bye, but we now at present for you while there is none to do good but to destroy from one place to the other.

So we notice you at once before it come. When it come it will be too late. What you kill that will do, not one more; if not, well, then it is lives for lives. We, as black and brown, and poor whites so we don't care for burn lose lives, so bring them back and let them go. You will laugh at my writing, but I don't care at that. Death, death for all, and

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Inclosure 44 in No. 22.

The Custos of Vere to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Old Harbour, November* 1, 1865.

I BEG to enclose for his Excellency's information a report of Mr. Shaw's with a copy of a threatening notice. You will observe that Mr. Shaw has suspended his Excellency's instructions for the discharge of the prisoners in Vere in consequence of this notice, and the probability of their being connected with it. Mr. Shaw conducts his duties and has aided me to preserve the peace of the parish with such good sense and sound discretion that I hope for his Excellency's approval of his conduct on this occasion, which is dictated solely by considerations for the public good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LOUIS Mc KINNON.

Inclosure 45 in No. 22.

Mr. Shaw to the Custos of Vere.

r, *Vere, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE received your communication dated 29th instant.

It has come to my knowledge that a threatening notice, of which the enclosed is a literal copy, was, on Thursday night or Friday morning, pushed in through the jalousies of Mr. Hooper's bedroom, the schoolmaster in Portland. It was done during the night succeeding the arrest of the Portland prisoners. Last night a volunteer came to me and informed me he was on the track of those who wrote the notice, and that he expected to bring before me this afternoon, a person who, he believes, was present when it was written. Under the circumstances I shall take upon myself the responsibility of putting off the discharge of the prisoners until I see how this matter is developed, for I make no doubt the prisoners are connected with the persons who wrote the notice. I hope for your approval of the course I have adopted.

I have not made known to any one the orders for the discharge of the prisoners, nor shall I at present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GILBERT SHAW.

Inclosure 46 in No. 22.

Threatening Notice.

To the Gentlemen of Vere.

Except you do away with the volunteers we will cut all your throats next week like the Morant Bay people.

Inclosure 47 in No. 22.

The Custos of St. Ann to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Windsor, St. Ann, November* 2, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, for his Excellency the Governor's information, that the detachment of the 2nd West India Regiment, under the command of Captain Wise, reached Brown's about 10 P.M. on the 31st ultimo, with all their baggage, stores, &c., although the authorities had only an hour or two previous notice of their arrival. My thanks are specially due to Mr. Justice Harris for his attention and exertions in housing them, and Mr. Hart, Inspector of Police, rendered zealous and effective service in the transport of the baggage and otherwise.

Yesterday I visited Brown's Town and had the pleasure of learning from Captain Wise that he was quite satisfied with all the arrangements made. Two expresses have arrived from Falmouth directing him to hold a moiety of his detachment in readiness to proceed there. The moiety left in Brown's Town will be, in my opinion, quite sufficient to awe the disaffected, encourage the loyal, and preserve peace and order; but I most respectfully urge upon his Excellency their not being withdrawn for a time save on the gravest necessity.

The Court passed off quietly. A man was apprehended for seditious language on very clear evidence, and I shall send him up with the evidence by first opportunity, to be dealt with according to his deserts. He is just out of the penitentiary, an obeah man, and the terror of the neighbourhood; the police have also a woman from Morant Bay with a forged pass. I have directed Mr. Todd to have the necessary affidavits made for two parties on his "black list." I believe that very great caution and tact is necessary at this juncture, or more harm than good will be done.

His Excellency will be pleased to learn that peace and order prevail throughout the parish so far as I can learn, and that his Excellency's thoughtful regard of the welfare of the community is, I think, appreciated by all classes. There was at first an impression among the people that the troops were to overawe; I addressed the people at Brown's Town on this point, telling them how grateful we ought all to feel, that it is only the wicked and ill-disposed who have reason to fear, at which the people seemed pleased and responded.

No accoutrements have come with the arms, an omission which will, I trust, be soon rectified.

Since commencing this I am informed that a moiety of the detachment left Brown's Town late last night for Falmouth.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ROYES.

Inclosure 48 in No. 22.

Mr. Hall to Mr. Rennalls.

Sir, *Rodney Hall, November* 4, 1865.

I AM directed by the Justices to forward a note picked up in Dr. Cargill's dispensary this morning.

The Justices respectfully suggest to his Excellency the Governor and Executive Committee that a good reward should at once be offered for the discovery of the writer or writers of these papers; for although the Justices do not attach much importance to the papers, they are the means of creating a great deal of excitement and alarm in the minds of the inhabitants of the town of Linstead.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN H. HALL, *Clerk to the Magistrates.*

P.S.—The magistrates suggest that placards be struck off and sent up by return policemen for posting about the town and elsewhere.

J. H. H.

Inclosure 49 in No. 22.

Threatening Letter.

Redwood, November 1, 1865.

DR. CARGILL, lose no time to tell your friend Mr. Hall that his life is in immediate danger. Two more in Linstead must look out. You, Dr. Cargill, don't stand too late with volunteers—you need not fear. Take advice—fire will burn.

Inclosure 50 in No. 22.

Mr. Parry to the Hon. H. Westmorland.

Dear Sir, *November 5*, 1865.

I AM in receipt of your note of the 3rd instant, and hasten to reply to it by recapitulating the circumstances brought to my knowledge, and which have led me to the belief that the rebellion of St. Thomas in the East was part of an organised plan, fortunately not matured. I was in St. Ann's in August last, about the 15th, and was informed by a person of the name of * * * a black man, that there existed in that as well as in other parishes a society, to use his own expression, which had at its head a president and secretary, and that they kept up regular correspondence with each other on political and other matters. I presume from the fact that it was identified with the late G. W. Gordon's movements with reference to the Underhill matter; that a sum of 100*l.* had been raised for printing specimen in the shape of a circular, requesting the attendance of the labouring people at St. Ann's Bay to take into consideration the Queen's reply to their memorial being shown us, Mr. Scott and myself. * * * then stated that latterly he had reason to doubt the character of the society in consequence of the tone and language used at their meetings, and foreseeing that "trouble would come" withdrew his connection with it. On further inquiry, he told us that a person named Rodney and one named Burton (the latter a person from Kingston) were the president and treasurer. We both expressed our approval of the course he had adopted in disconnecting himself from such a body, because, although we never entertained the idea that at these meetings any plot was being secretly concocted, still we saw the dangerous tendency of any association which had for its object the discussion of social or political matters among a class of ignorant people unable to judge for themselves, but ready to be guided by the evil counsels of evil men.

Mr. Scott has been endeavouring to obtain further information, but has learnt nothing of importance as yet. He is still, however, impressed with the idea, notwithstanding the present quiet state of affairs in the parish, that until such men as Rodney, Burton, and those connected with his meetings (G. W. Gordon's) are taken into custody, there will not be perfect security.

Mr. Scott in his last letter to me mentions a person named Scoles, and another named Campbell, the latter formerly in G. W. Gordon's employ, and who trained race horses and belonging to St. Mary's, as persons who, if they could, would head any insurrectionary movements. I do not know either of them, but feel satisfied that Mr. Scott would not allude to them did he not feel justified, after due inquiry into their antecedents.

I am not aware to what sect of religionists these parties are attached; but it must be recollected that in St. Ann's the native Baptist element is largely diffused, and I have no doubt that this class of people particularly have been, more or less, so indoctrinated with ideas of dissatisfaction and disloyalty that it would require very little to enlist their sympathies with that of the rebellious people of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN PARRY.

Inclosure 51 in No. 22.

Mr. Prendergast, J.P., to the Custos of St. George.

(Extracts.) *Iter Boreale Estate, Metcalfe, October* 17, 1865.

I REGRET to tell you that there is much excitement in this quarter. I am glad to hear troops have been sent to Buff Bay. We are taking all the precaution we can in this quarter. I hope we shall have some protection at Annotto Bay. The accounts from windward are truly alarming.

October 20, 1865.

I AM happy to find the troops are bring things to a close in St. Thomas in the East. The accounts are really dreadful.

A suspicious-looking rascal was taken up on his way through Buff Bay on Tuesday night. He was examined next day before myself and three other Magistrates; he has been sent to Port Antonio. We have been looking out for protection in this quarter, but as yet we have not seen any from head-quarters.

Inclosure 52 in No. 22.

Extracts from Letters from the Parish of St. George.

Mr. Guscott, J.P., to the Custos of St. George.

Buff Bay, October 18, 1865.

IT is with the utmost alarm I address you. The officer commanding the troops here has got orders from Newcastle to proceed to-morrow morning and join his regiment. When I last wrote you I was under the apprehension that we were in a state of uncertainty; but since we have captured a number of prisoners, and from the investigation of the evidence I think the prisoners are fit subjects for immediate trial.

I have every reason now to think that the removal of the troops from here will cause the rebels to visit us. I have this day enrolled a great number of men to defend the place, but they are deficient of arms and ammunition, and request that a supply should be at once forwarded.

From information received a number of the rioters from St. Thomas in the East are now lurking at White River, and in the African houses on your estates, and other parts of the parish. Two other threatening letters were found in the Court-house yard this morning.

Should an attack take place I will write you immediately.

Mr. Guscott, J.P., to the Custos of St. George.

Buff Bay, October 23, 1865.

WE have sent on several prisoners from here and Metcalfe to Port Antonio.

I beg to suggest to you that a detachment of Her Majesty's troops should remain here during the continuance of martial law. I consider that nothing but their presence has kept matters here qu .

Mr. Guscott, J.P., to the Custos of St. George.

October 27, 1865.

WE have examined a number of prisoners from Spring Garden, respecting the threatening letter; there is no evidence against them, consequently they must be discharged. Four or five prisoners have been brought in from Low Layton Estate for threatening language.

Mr. Skyers, J.P., to the Custos of St. George.

(Extracts.) *Buff Bay, St. George, October* 17, 1865.

THERE is great excitement here in the minds of everybody, though the rioters have not made their appearance here yet.

October 18, 1865.

Great excitement prevails here. A man under very suspicious circumstances was taken up last night passing through Buff Bay, and was brought before a bench of Magistrates to-day, but is remanded until a court-martial can be formed.

October 23, 1865.

A few stragglers have been picked up here, and have been sent to Port Antonio, to be dealt with according to law.

Three prisoners were brought to the Bay last evening, from Low Layton Estate.

Inclosure 53 in No. 22.

Memorandum by the Custos of Manchester.

RICHARD M. GORDON told me that he attended a meeting at Jubilee Chapel at the end of July, when the Rev. —. Clayden made an inflammatory speech to the people, saying, that while men oppressed the blacks that they must not submit to rent land in the way they were doing, and that the Church of England must pay for their own parsons and not tax them for it. There was another meeting called, but he did not go back, as he felt that he was having wrong advice given him against the whites.

(Signed) JNO. R. HOLLINGSWORTH.

Inclosure 54 in No. 22.

Extract from a Letter from W. R. Braham to Hon. H. Westmorland, dated Metcalfe, November 7, 1865.

WE are still going on quietly, thanks to Providence and the prompt and energetic acts of Government, as I am quite sure there are many in Metcalfe that know all about the intended outbreak, and if it had not been so promptly put down it would have been a sadder affair than it has been, and I am sure that you are quite right in thinking we require to be on the alert for some time.

No. 23.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 272.) (Answered No. 356, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of a correspondence relating to the Maroons under the command of Colonel Fyfe.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

Whitehall, 12 *miles above Bath, in the Plantain Garden*

Sir, *River, October* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that on the march with the Maroons from Port Antonio to Moore Town on the 19th instant, when above three miles from Port Antonio, a coloured man rushed from the bushes in a great fright stating that the rebels were at Cambridge, about six or seven miles to the south-east of Port Antonio. I detached twenty men with instructions to remain at Cambridge for the night, sending me word if they found the statement true, but if false to return to Moore Town in the morning. They returned as ordered, stating that they saw nothing but the "footprints" of one man which they tracked to the main road.

On the morning of the 20th a man not a Maroon, who had been shooting some days before in the woods to the westward of Moore Town, informed me that he had heard a good deal of shooting, and being afraid, had run home. On consulting with the Maroons we agreed that as the spot indicated was about twelve miles to the southern of Whitehall,

on the Plantain Garden River (where I now write), it was not an unlikely place for a camp. I therefore, in accordance with the discretion allowed me by General Nelson, decided not to march a detachment from Bath down the Plantain Garden (now quiet), but to act according to the following plan. I was further led to this from thinking that if one man had got to Cambridge, more would probably follow, and from hearing that Torrington, above Bath, had not been visited by troops.

I inclose a hurried sketch of the whole movement. Starting from Moore Town, No. 1 party, twenty-three men, to march from Moore Town to Cambridge, thence to Kenney, about three miles, where they would leave eight men; the rest to march through the interior, parallel with the coast, to the back of Manchioneal, entering the main road at Hector's River, thence by main road to Amity Hall. No. 2, thirty men to march from Moore Town westward through the woods towards the point marked "Supposed Rebel Camp" (about twenty miles), to stop there for the night, and to be at Whitehall (distant about twelve miles) on the following afternoon.

No. 3, seventy men to march to Bath, and to proceed to Whitehall on the following afternoon, taking Torrington on the way.

I accompanied No. 3. On arriving at Bath the reports about Torrington were confirmed. The place is cut up into small freeholds on the tops and sides of crumpled hills, extending from the Plantain Garden River to the hills to the south of Morant Bay. I therefore moved early yesterday morning to the place. On ascending about a mile and a-half up the hills some six or seven shots were fired at the party in advance, wounding one Maroon slightly. Nine of the rebels were killed.

We then advanced, burning all the houses, but leaving a small out-building at each place to shelter the women and children. Directing the main body of Maroons to put themselves in the hills for the night, I started about 4 P.M. with twelve men to meet No. 2 party at Whitehall as concerted. These arrived about ten minutes after me, stating that they hadn't seen a living soul in their march of thirty-two miles, except one man just before they came in.

22nd.—No. 2, with eight of the party that accompanied me, making thirty-eight dispatched to join the party in the Torrington District. I retain four men mounted with myself to follow after the finishing this letter.

I have also sent a few men to bring up No. 1 party from Amity Hall to Bath, where all will meet to-night.

I have little doubt, unless some pressing emergency shall arise, that the whole of this valley, from the Plantain Garden Flats to the Johnson River, which debouches near Morant Bay, will be the best working ground for the Maroons for a time. I believe this to be the chief nest of the rebels, and if we hunt them out, and they take to the woods, they are sure to be taken, as the Maroons hunt by the track, and nothing can escape them off the roads.

I regret to say that we found a Maroon in the Torrington District, where he has been living for thirty years. He had a large cane field and sugar mill. The Maroons were so incensed at his not having given them notice of the intended rising, that they would have shot him had I given the order; but as he was an old man, and the son of a former faithful chief, besides having followed me in the rebellion of 1832, I contented myself with having his mill and house burnt.

My plans were a good deal frustrated yesterday by the avarice, or something worse, of one of the Hayfield Maroons, whom I found on guard at Bath. Having been informed that he intended going with a small party to Torrington, in the hope of obtaining the reward offered for the capture of the ringleaders, I gave him strict orders not to stir. Notwithstanding this, I was informed in the morning that he had started over night. On my way towards Torrington I met him returning—his going having had no other effect than to apprise the rebels of my presence in Bath. I had him dismounted and sent to Bath under arrest, to be further dealt with.

I trust that my deviation from your Excellency's instructions will not be disapproved of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

P.S.—The march from Moore Town was in the heaviest rain I ever witnessed; crossed the Rio Grande when barely fordable; one man for four hours insensible from chill—recovered by hard rubbing. I wish (prospectively) for flint rifles; they, the Maroons, don't keep their caps dry. I heard seven snaps yesterday in half-a-minute, and one man sent a ball through his comrade's leg on Friday.

This being my first despatch is, I am afraid, rather prolix and circumstantial.

A. G. F.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Head-Quarters House, Kingston, October* 27, 1865.

I INCLOSE two letters—reports—just received.

Truly yours,

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Major-General O'Connor.

My dear General, *Whitehall, October* 25, 1865, 8 P.M.

MY men returned late this evening, having fired the whole of Stony Gut and Middleton district. Seven of the rebels were killed. After recovering the Baron's ring I left the party of Maroons proceeding to Morant Bay, and rode across the hills with a guide and a mounted Maroon, to join a party I had sent in the morning to scour the hills above Torrington, where I had told the people to surrender in twenty-four hours. All appear to have come but one man, who was shot. I told those assembled that I would name a day when they were to come into Bath, that I would not deceive them with conditions which their crimes might debar me from fulfilling; they would be punished according to those crimes. But this I did promise,—that if they did not come, the Maroons would find them, and give them no quarter.

They said they would come whenever I sent for them. In my ride I came across Bogle's "Fort." It was composed of large trees felled across a road, cut in the side of a nearly perpendicular hill, forming one side of a wooded and deep ravine on Clark River. The hill was so steep that the angle of the road left a space under the trees, through which, after removing the bamboo palisades and cutting away some heavy branches with a cutlass, we managed to lead our ponies. It was nothing more than a trap for themselves, because by simply occupying the turn of the road beyond the two barricades (at about twenty yards apart), they might have been picked off from the opposite hill, as from the steepness of the hill between the barricades they would be unable to escape either up or down. I mention all these little facts, firstly, to show what was the extent of their defences, and secondly, how thoroughly cowed they are.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 23.

Colonel Nelson to General O'Connor.

My dear General, *Morant Bay, October* 26, 1865.

I SEND extract from note just received from Colonel Fyfe to myself; also the note from his Excellency, as the contents should not be commented on by myself. The question of amnesty is of much too great importance to be decided by any but the Commander-in-Chief, yourself.

You will by the time this reaches have received a note from me respecting the matter of troops for this district.

Will you on forwarding the note, explain to his Excellency that I considered it my duty to refer it to you?

Everything is quiet at all my detached posts.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor Eyre, *Bath, October* 28, 1865.

I HAVE just come in from a fatiguing excursion, and would have postponed acknowledging till to-morrow your kind note of the 26th but for my anxiety to express

to your Excellency my earnest hope that you will dispatch Mr. Bicknell to Morant Bay to assist General Nelson in perusing papers and getting up cases for Courts-martial. The General has so much to do, and his services are so essential on other important points, that it would be a severe tax on his time and mind to have to search often through a bushel of rubbish before he can obtain the grain of evidence which is to avail him. Now Mr. Bicknell's natural quickness and legal acquirements render him just the man to assist the General. I therefore trust that, whilst your Excellency will pardon me for making the suggestion, you will see the propriety of performing this act of justice to the service, and consideration for the General.

Ewart could act for Bicknell.

I have been scouring the whole of this valley, from the backwoods of Wheelerfield up beyond Whitehall. A great deal of plunder discovered; everything quiet; the people subdued, and surrendering to me fast for some days.

I give these papers of protection by twenties and thirties, pending your Excellency's pleasure, and provided they have not been concerned in cases of murder, and have no plunder in their possession; these papers are also given to those who bring in the stolen articles, for otherwise fear would prevent their delivering them up.

They all promise to go to work on Monday. I had intended putting them on the road to Moore Town, and they had willingly consented to work as a punishment (I merely providing them something to eat with their own ground provisions); but it is essential that the crops should be taken off, so I have countermanded the order.

The Maroons are behaving remarkably well. I have prepared them for the execution of Phillips, although, at their request, I have written General Nelson to ask, if his case is not a very bad one, that his sentence (if of death) may be commuted to imprisonment for life. General is anxious to consent.

I thank your Excellency for your kind inquiries; except one bad night caused by fasting till 4 P.M., and then eating like a savage, I have been wonderfully well under my amphibious life. No danger from the rebels, but occasionally a good deal from the rivers.

I hope Mrs. Eyre and the children are well, and that you yourself have not succumbed to your unrelaxed and trying exertions, both of mind and body. This will be an ungrateful country if they forget you.

I have written a note or two to Hosack, not knowing where your Excellency was, and have reported by snatches to General Nelson.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

P.S.—Pray send Bicknell at once.

A. G. F.

Inclosure 6 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor Eyre, *Bath, St. Thomas-in-the-East, October* 29, 1865

I HOPE you will pardon me for not having oftener communicated with you. In the first place, your constant locomotion has made me uncertain as to your whereabout and in the next I concluded that my hasty and disjointed reports to General Nelson could reach you as rapidly as if I had sent them to yourself direct; farther, writing as I generally do in the middle of the night after three hours' sleep, I have really been unable either to write duplicates or even to copy my letters.

You ask "to whom, when, and how is the reward for Paul Bogle to be paid, as I hear the Maroons caught him." Paul Bogle was captured by the Maroons in an expedition under my command. The reward (as was previously arranged to prevent rivalry) is to be divided equally amongst the men, and if your Excellency's projected visit to the town be not too long delayed, I propose that the amount should be divided into separate parcels and handed to each by yourself on the occasion of that visit.

Bogle's capture took place on the afternoon of the 23rd I had received information from a spy of the district in which he was lurking, and early on the 23rd took a large party with me, forming them into a wide-spread crescent so as to sweep it. Moving with their usual silence, after a hard day's work they came on him unawares when he was coming out of the bush with a sugar-cane in his hand. On his reaching our station at Whitehall about half-past 7 P.M., I at once despatched an express to General Nelson apprising him of the fact, and next morning early forwarded him to Morant Bay

fastened to one of the men who killed Mr. Hire. The latter had a sword cut on the forehead.

The Maroons are highly delighted at the prospect of your visit, and with the praise you have bestowed on them.

So soon as I can be spared I should like to take a party of the Maroons through St. David, Kingston, Spanish Town to Accompang, detouring to some of the other parishes on the way. The sight of us might do good.

I received yesterday, by the same express which brought your note, a despatch from General Nelson, enclosing extracts from your letter to General O'Connor of the 26th, on the subject of the future disposition of the troops in the north and eastern districts of the Island.

Whilst I rejoice at the determination of your Excellency to retain permanently on full pay a large portion of the Maroons (a measure, in my opinion, fraught with more prospective security to the country than any that could be devised), I am at the same compelled, from my knowledge of the Maroon character and prejudices, to state candidly the obstacles that interpose to the adoption of the whole details of the proposed arrangement.

To employ Maroons in the occupation of military posts in the plains would at once divest them of that distinctive nationality to which they owe their somewhat mysterious power over the negro. The Maroons are "the children of the mist" of Jamaica romance. They have their haunted "Namy Town" in the interior fastnesses, which they never approach; and even the white man, who, impelled by curiosity, has tried to penetrate its mysteries, has been scared by occurrences for which he has been unable to account. The sound of their wild war horns as they rush without warning and without apparent discipline to the plains, strikes terror into the hearts of everyone that hears it. Their charm consists in their very seclusion: bring them into every-day contact with the people, and that charm, which in effect quadruples their numbers, would be dispelled. Besides which, the Maroons have a strong aversion to be employed with troops. After the perfidy of the Island to those who capitulated at the last Maroon war, they have an inherent dread of remaining long in positions in which they know they are powerless to frustrate treachery;—for the same reasons, a traditional warning is, "Never trust yourself on the sea."

I shall therefore, in reply to General Nelson, state briefly my objections to their being employed in the occupation of posts.

I am grateful for the approbation you have been so kind as to express of me personally. It is really most gratifying to me to know that I possess the confidence of all those under whom I am acting.

Respectfully, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

I have been listening to the Wesleyan Church-bell summoning to service as I write this. Poor Herschell's dumb, and his church occupied by my men. No one could fancy in the sequel of everything around that such dreadful deeds had been so lately enacted in the vicinity.

Everything quiet. I start for Whitehall to-morrow, to scour some points not far from Moncklands, where it is supposed some of the rebels are still lurking. Another detachment moves along the northern side of the hills that overlook the sea between Morant Bay and Port Morant.

I wrote by post last evening begging you to send up Mr. Bicknell to help General Nelson.

A. G. F.

Inclosure 7 in No. 23.

Governor Eyre to Colonel Fyfe.

My dear Mr. Fyfe, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

YOUR letter of yesterday's date has just reached me. Like you I have little spare time for any writing which can be avoided.

As regards the reward of 400*l.* for Paul Bogle's capture, you do not state the number or names of the Maroons engaged in it. Your own presence with the force entitles you to a Colonel's share of the prize money.

I shall be glad to distribute it myself if it could be so arranged, but I thought they

might wish to have it at once. Now I cannot come up immediately, as the Sessions begin to-morrow week, and we have to submit some most important measures.

Your plan of going with some Maroons through St. David's, Kingston, Spanish Town, &c., to Accompang, is an admirable one, and the sooner it is carried out the better, as there can be no occasion for your remaining at St. Thomas in the East, nor where a general amnesty is proclaimed (*excipe excipiendo*). I send you a copy. Try and arrange this expedition as soon as you can. It will have an immense moral effect in the parishes and the westward, where all is in a very uncertain and threatening state, though we are rapidly throwing troops into different points, and are surrounding the coast with men-of-war, looking frequently into the different ports. I hope we shall keep down any further rising, and be able to punish those who are trying to excite it.

As soon as you can arrange everything definite let me know the days on which the Maroons would be at Kingston and Spanish Town.

They ought to be feasted at each place, only they must not be at either place on the two first days of the Session, or no one could attend to them.

I quite admit the cogency of your remarks as to not stationing the Maroons with troops as I had suggested. This, however, will not prevent a certain number being left on permanent pay, but you will have to devise a scheme suitable to the race, so that those who are in pay shall be always at a certain place, and to a certain extent organised and ready for immediate service—of course changing them as often as is thought necessary, if the Maroons do not like to be kept too long at a time embodied. But these details, or any other suggestions better suited to their character, you yourself must suggest in an official report, stating what you recommend should be done, so as to satisfy them, and at the same time give the colony full benefit of their services.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Send a memorandum of the kind and nature of the feast as to eatables and drinkables, &c., which you think best adapted for the Maroons, and where you think it should be given in Kingston and Spanish Town. State also the probable number to be provided for.

E. E.

Inclosure 8 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor Eyre, *Moncklands, October* 31, 1865, *night.*

YOUR private despatch of yesterday's date reached me this afternoon on the road near the Mullet Hall lands on my way here from Whitehall, whence I had dispatched a party of Maroons in advance to scour the woods in this vicinity. They met with no one, but a small party is again to start a little after midnight to search a cave where one of the prisoners states one of the ringleaders is concealed.

As there are several prisoners here who are said to be deeply impeached, I have, at the request of Captain Field, of the 6th Royals, directed a court martial to be held at daylight to-morrow; so soon as it is over I shall start back to Bath to prepare for the expedition to Accompang, issuing an address to the Maroons on my appointment as Colonel. (By the way, in my formal Commission I should like to be also termed "and Chief," as I wish to consider them Jamaica Highlanders.)

I shall give you due intimation when we are ready, and of the day we shall arrive in Kingston, avoiding the days you mention.

The prize money there is no hurry about, but I will consult the Maroons as to the when and the how of its distribution. For myself, although not burdened with the world's gifts, I cannot for a moment think of accepting any portion of it. I must act not for my own but the island's interest, and nothing would be more likely to please them than my relinquishment of the Colonel's share.

I have reported to General Nelson the extracts from your despatch to General O'Connor on the subject of employing the Maroons permanently. I have proposed half to be on the full pay of 1*s.* a day, the rest on 6*d.*; all to be ready for service when called on, and those on full pay acting as patrols. On these occasions to have rations, and when in the field to be put on a footing with the militia. The rifles must be replaced by light flint muskets, with one point-blank sight only; a sort of sword cutlass, and powder-horn instead of cartridges. No doubt General Nelson will send you a copy of my Report, but there will be other details which it will be requisite to add when the measure is worked finally into shape.

The bill of proposed fare shall be forwarded so soon as I have consulted the Maroon palate. At present the latter appears to be tolerably content with G. W. Gordon's beeves and swine. I will also name the number; it will probably be 200, as owing to the distribution of troops I might get 50 from Charles Town and Scott's Hall.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

I am writing at midnight. I usually go to bed at 8, rise at 11, and write till 2. My men are getting sickly from want of clothing. Captain * has kindly issued forty-two soldiers' woollen shirts to me, but I am really anxious to learn what is doing about my requisition; I have had no reply to it.

I cannot get the men to keep their rifles on half-cock, when capped, and I am in hourly dread of their shooting each other. There should be no time lost in writing for 500 light muskets. I should like fifty twelve-months convicts to be sent to Port Antonio to make the road from Sandy River to Bath; the sentence to be to work a part, and the Maroons left at home will guard. As it should be a military road, General O'Connor would probably allow an officer of engineers to inspect and graduate it, he receiving additional pay during the work.

A. G. F.

Inclosure 9 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir, *Bath, November 2*, 1865.

AS reported, I despatched a party of Maroons on the 31st ultimo to scour the woods near Moncklands. After finishing my despatches, in order to test the tranquillity of the district, I started, attended only by a servant and a boy prisoner as a guide, taking the road through Spring Serge Island, Garbrand Hall, thence through the woods towards Mullet Hall, Mount Ida and Somerset, to near Islandhead; the three first on the Johnson River, the other on the Sambo River, which runs into the Johnson at Garbrand Hall. I then turned down the Valley of the Negro River, striking the Wild Cane River at Mount Libanus, thence to Moncklands. On the whole way to near Mount Libanus, I met but three men sent to procure provisions.

On arriving at Moncklands I found the Maroons there. They had seen no traces of runaways in their beat; Captain Field and his gallant band having performed their work so thoroughly as to have left nothing for the Maroons to do.

As there were several prisoners at Moncklands, Captain Field requested me to order a court-martial. This was done early the next morning: two to be shot, one to receive 100 lashes. I then started back on the direct road to Whitehall, reaching Bath at 8 P.M. last night.

This, and my ordering all the Maroons to assemble here to-night, has been caused by a despatch from his Excellency the Governor, which caught me near Moncklands, and of which the following is an extract:—

"Your plan of going with the Maroons through St. David, Kingston, Spanish Town, &c., to Accompang, is an admirable one, and the sooner it is carried out the better. There can be no occasion for your remaining at St. Thomas in the East, nor where a general amnesty is proclaimed (*excipe excipienda*). I send you a copy. Try and arrange this expedition as soon as you can."

I now, therefore, consider my vocation here to be gone. Six constables (I have sent about thirty to their homes) and a party of Maroons will be left here, the former for carrying despatches; probably, three or four of the latter to rove about Moncklands and Garband Hall to pick up any stragglers that the Proclamation might not have brought in, but I wish to take about 200 men from the three towns.

You will perhaps, in view of my departure, deem it advisable to establish a post at Golden Grove. The Maroons will take care of Bath and watch the Cunha-Cunhas, and if Captain Field be continued for a time at Moncklands, as he seems to think he will, I shall not be missed.

I quit you, General, with much regret, and thoroughly impressed with the frankness, consideration and kindness I have met at your hands during my brief service under you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

P.S.—I am minute in describing the localities, as a knowledge of them may be of service at some future period.

A. G. F.

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* *Sic.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 23.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor Eyre, *Bath, November* 3, 1865, 7 A.M.

I HAVE been here since yesterday morning, waiting for the return of a large party of Maroons that I detached on the 31st ultimo to scour the district from the hills to the north of Morant Bay towards Pera, near the east end of the island. They are not yet in, but I expect them momently.

As it is now too late to be in town with my excursionists so as to avoid the two first days of the Session, and as your Excellency has required my presence at the meeting of the Legislature, I shall start alone for Kingston so soon as the detachment returns, giving the Maroons till Sunday to prepare for their trip to Accompang. Our route will probably be through Vere, returning circuitously through Westmoreland, Hanover, and the successive north-side parishes, to Portland. It is important, for effect, that a large party should go, and I purpose, if Mr. Hosack (who is the best judge of the state of St. George) thinks they can be spared, taking 30 men from Charlestown, and 20 from Scott's Hall. This, of course, could be only done with safety if detachments of troops are sent to Buff Bay and Annotto Bay. On my arrival in Kingston this point can be determined. The day on which the Maroons are to reach there can also be named to suit the convenience of your Excellency, and the Maroons apprised of this by express. I will then meet them in St. David on their way down, and have the honour of entering Kingston at their head. They are quite delighted with your Excellency's invitation, and wish to witness the scene.

I enclose the copy of a despatch forwarded to General Nelson yesterday, since it vouches for tranquillity in the Blue Mountain District.

Mr. Hosack, I regret to say, writes me that you have not been well. I was quite prepared for this; such incessant labour and anxiety must tell, but I hope that the conviction that the rebellion is crushed will tend to restore you.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) A. G. FYFE.

Inclosure 11 in No. 23.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November 5, 1865.*

I HAVE recently been in communication with Colonel Fyfe, commanding the Maroons of the colony, for the purpose of arranging that a large party of them should visit Kingston and Spanish Town with him, and then proceed through the country to the Maroon settlement at Acompang, in St. James', for the purpose of fraternising with the Maroons of that settlement, and confirming their loyalty.

The effect of such an expedition on the negro population, in a moral point of view, will be very great.

Colonel Fyfe is now on a hurried visit to Spanish Town, to make the requisite arrangements, and he will call on your Excellency to-morrow, to explain what is proposed, and consult with you as to the fittest manner of receiving the Maroons with an honourable attention. It is proposed that as large a body of Maroons as practicable should be engaged in this expedition (not less than 200), and it would be very desirable that some should join it from Charlestown and Scott's Hall, as well as from Moore Town and Hayfield Hall—if it could be so arranged that their services could be dispensed with by Brigadier-General Nelson.

My own opinion is, that the eastern districts are now perfectly quieted and safe, and are likely to remain so as long as the military posts at Morant Bay, Bath, or Golden Grove and Port Antonio, are kept up. I apprehend, therefore, no difficulty as likely to arise from removing temporarily 200 Maroons from the lately-disturbed districts, whilst their services in the undertaking contemplated will be invaluable to the western districts.

I shall, therefore, be obliged by your giving the necessary instructions to Brigadier-General Nelson, to enable Colonel Fyfe to carry into effect the proposed arrangements.

It is intended that the Maroons under Colonel Fyfe should leave the Bath district on Friday or Saturday next, and arrive in Kingston about 9 or 10 A.M. on Monday, the 13th instant; that is, the day on which martial law expires.

They would remain in Kingston that day, quartered at the Court-house, and the following day come on to Spanish Town.

As it is very desirable to show every attention in our power to so friendly and loyal a people, and to whom we were greatly indebted during the recent rebellion, I would suggest that it would be highly appreciated if your Excellency would order Captain Astwood's troop to meet them outside the town and escort them in, and if the Kingston Volunteers could be mustered in the town to receive them as they pass to the Court-house.

They will be entertained at the public expense.

Colonel Fyfe, who will call upon you to-morrow, will furnish your Excellency with any further information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 24.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 273.) (Answered No. 11, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, November 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit various documents relating to certain Haytian refugees and other aliens, recently residing in this Colony.

Some time ago I had reason to suspect these Haytians were plotting against the present Government of Hayti, and I had a correspondence with General Lamothe on the subject, warning him that he could not be allowed to remain in British territory if engaged in such undertakings. General Lamothe disavowed any such proceedings or intentions.

Recently an alien merchant at Kingston, Mr. Noel Crosswell (one of whose firm is a Mr. Lubin, married to a daughter of the ex-Emperor Soulouque), entered into an arrangement with General Lamothe to fit out a vessel with ammunition and an expeditionary party, consisting of General Lamothe and others, to go to Cape Hayti for the purpose of aiding the insurgents there in rebellion against the established Government.

The party sailed in a schooner called the "Oracle," but being unable to fulfil her mission from, I imagine, the vigilance of the blockading squadron, returned to Jamaica, putting into Port Antonio, where she was seized with the ammunition, and General Lamothe and his party on board.

As these parties have outraged the hospitality extended to them by making use of British soil to organize and fit out a hostile expedition against a Government at amity with Great Britain, they have forfeited all claim to the shelter and protection of the British flag, and I have accordingly issued orders to all to depart from Jamaica within fourteen days, and not return to it again, under penalty of being delivered over to the Government to which they owe natural allegiance.

The question of the condemnation of the "Oracle" has not yet been decided.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Mr. Austin to General Lamothe.

(No. 1,332.)

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, July 25, 1865.*

I AM directed by the Governor to state that it having been reported to his Excellency that you have been mixed up in some recent schemes with regard to Hayti, it has become his Excellency's duty to warn you that whilst Great Britain willingly offers shelter and safety to political refugees of all nations (who are not criminal), she will not allow her territory to be made use of as a place from which to organize, aid, or abet any plans or schemes for the subversion or injury of a Government with which she is at amity.

You must, I am to state, distinctly understand that this is the sole condition of your being permitted to remain in Jamaica, and that if any proof is adduced that this condition has been infringed, his Excellency will have no alternative but to require you immediately to quit British territory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH. W. AUSTIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

General Lamothe to Governor Eyre.

May it please your Excellency, *Kingston, July* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the communication you deigned to address me, dated the 25th instant, No. 1,332. Its contents, which I reverently perused, imparted to me that it had been reported to your Excellency that I am mixed up in some schemes against Hayti; and that whilst liberal England offers shelter and safety to political refugees of all nations, she will not allow her territory to be made use of as a place from which to organize, aid, or abet any sort of attempt against a Government with which she is at amity; and that if any proof is adduced, your Excellency has no alternative but to require me immediately to quit British territory.

If the report was a real fact your Excellency, of course, would be, I acknowledge, acting in accordance with your rights and duties; but please to allow me to say that such is not the case.

The report made to your Excellency is a mere invention from some enemy of mine, powerful enough, no doubt, to make use of some intermeddler in order to procure your Excellency to serve his resentments.

I have been residing in this country for these three years under *incognito*. My life is such a solitary one that very few persons know me in Kingston. No reproach had ever been made, until now, in reference to my obedience to laws and respect to the authorities. My intercourse with private persons is stamped with the seal of integrity. I am really at a loss to find out how such a life can deserve the caution which your Excellency has given to me; the necessity for it must have emanated from some malicious person or persons. Besides, I defy any one to adduce any proof to substantiate the statement made to your Excellency.

I am not at all mixed up in any recent scheme against my country. Only President Geffrard, having attempted to destroy my life, having also violated my constitutional rights as a Senator of the Republic, I voluntarily left Hayti in order to avoid his ambushes; and from the 4th July, 1862, I have been peaceably in Kingston, and am very much obliged for the protection of the English laws, which I never violated. Consequently the report made to your Excellency, allow me to say, is entirely false and puerile, so very insignificant that your Excellency will discover that it must originate from an implacable enemy, so greedy of catching his prey that he is pursuing him even in a foreign land. Doubtless, then, your Excellency must perceive the cause and sole source of this calumny.

Permit me to assure your Excellency that, so long as I continue to remain in Jamaica my conduct shall be always worthy and reproachless.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JH. LAMOTHE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 24.

Mr. Jordon to General Lamothe.

(No. 1,399.)

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, August* 3, 1865.

I AM desired by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, and to state that his Excellency is glad to receive your assurance that you have not been engaged in any attempts against any one in Hayti since your arrival in this island in July 1862, and that so long as you abstain from any such attempts and from aiding and countenancing others in them, you will not be disturbed in the asylum you have selected in Jamaica under the protection of the British flag.

The report made to the Governor, from two different sources, was to the effect that both you and General Le Gros had not very long since been seen off the Island of Hayti, endeavouring to effect a landing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 24.

The Custos of Kingston to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Kingston, September* 30, 1865.

HAVING promised his Excellency the Governor to communicate to him any report that might reach me relative to the movement of the Haytian refugees, I have to request that you will submit the inclosed despatch from Mr. Inspector Nairn to his Excellency.

General Salomons arrived here a short time back, and has since been residing at Mrs. Logan's in Milk-street. Mr. Inspector Nairn informs me that Mr. Kelly Smith is a frequent visitor there.

Mr. Inspector Nairn also informs me that the Haytian Consul has expressed his opinion to him that the said General Salomons is a person likely to avail himself of the services of any disaffected persons here to forward his own views, and that he (General Salomons) intends leaving immediately for Hayti.

My own opinion is that the whole affair is one of "vox et præterea nihil," and from my past acquaintance of Messrs. Smith and Goldson I believe that neither of them possesses the discretion or courage necessary to concoct or carry out any scheme.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. Q. BOWERBANK.

Inclosure 5 in No. 24.

Mr. Nairn to the Custos of Kingston.

Sir, *Police Office, Kingston, September* 29, 1865.

REFERRING to Mr. Goldson's statement to me, I beg to give you his own words as correctly as my recollection serves me:—

"I would be quiet if the Government would appoint me a detective officer for Kingston, or give me any employment so as to keep myself and family from starvation. In that cause I would be a useful and staunch adherent of the Government, and the Government should recognize a few black men and let the mass of the black population see that they are not overlooked, and thereby strengthen their Government. I am at present idle. I have no occupatiou. I must tell the people that the taxes they pay to Government are improperly expended. For instance, look at the Immigration Office. Mr. Kelly Smith has promised to introduce me to Generals Lamothe and Salomons, and we shall go with them to Hayti when they are going, but we shall return if we can get no employment there.

"I know nothing about the sham Volunteers. I have great influence amongst my class. I shall go from parish to parish and talk to the people; but let the Government give me employment, and I shall be quiet and stand by them."

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NAIRN, *Inspector.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 24.

Mr. Jordon to the Custos of Kingston.

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, October* 4, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, and the accompanying report of Mr. Inspector Nairn, and to state that his Excellency the Governor has no desire to avail himself of the services of Mr. Goldson.

In so far as the Government is concerned Mr. Goldson is perfectly welcome to emigrate to Hayti or elsewhere.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 24.

Lieutenant Irvine, R.N., to the Senior Officer, Jamaica Division.

Sir, *"Nettle," Port Antonio, October 25, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the schooner "Oracle," under English colours, was seized yesterday morning by the Provost-Marshal for having on board 100 kegs of gunpowder and five Haytian passengers, General Lamothe and others, and for not giving a satisfactory explanation for being here when she cleared out from Kingston on the 9th instant for Inagua.

The Provost-Marshal requested I would place a guard on board of her, which I have done.

The crew, as well as the five Haytians, have been taken prisoners by the officer commanding the troops, but are released during the working hours to do duty on board the schooner to discharge her cargo, as she is in a leaky state.

By the advice of the Provost-Marshal, and in conjunction with the Collector of Customs, I have caused a strict search to be made on board of her for fire-arms, &c., and have found two revolvers, one pistol, two carbines, one sword-stick, one life-preserver, all of which are now in my possession. The fire-arms when found were loaded.

The official documents found I have handed over to the officer commanding the troops.

I have the honour to inform you that the machinery, pumps, &c., are in good order, and that I have painted, completed water, &c., and perfectly ready for sea.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D'ARCY IRVINE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 24.

Lieutenant Irvine, R.N., to the Senior Officer, Jamaica Division.

Sir, *"Nettle," Port Antonio, October 26, 1865.*

THE mail does not leave this until to-morrow at noon; I therefore have the honour to inform you that having received a request from Brigadier-General Nelson for Her Majesty's gun-boat under my command to proceed forthwith to Manchioneal Bay, there to embark troops, &c., for Port Royal, I shall act with the request at the earliest opportunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. D'ARCY IRVINE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, October 25, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose a telegram notifying that the "Oracle," which took away arms and ammunition, and Haytian passengers, and was ordered to be detained and searched on return to Port Royal, is now at Port Antonio.

If possible a gun-boat, or any other vessel if available, should be sent to bring her and all her people and cargo to Port Royal.

If any passengers be on board they should be captured and put on board again.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 24.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Admiralty House, Port Royal,

Sir, *October 26, 1865, 3 P.M.*

IN reply to your Excellency's despatches this moment received, requesting that three prisoners be taken to Morant Bay, and that the "Oracle" be brought here, I have the

honour to acquaint your Excellency that I purpose to ship the arms for St. Ann's Bay and Buff Bay, and the prisoners this evening, and to sail at break of day in execution of your Excellency's requisition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

P.S.—The "Fawn" will leave for the westward with troops and arms to-morrow afternoon.

Inclosure 11 in No. 24.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Kingston, October* 26, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's information, a despatch from Captain Luke, 1st West India Regiment, commanding troops at Port Antonio, who appears to have acted with laudable promptitude in seizing the suspected schooner "Oracle," and making prisoners of all on board.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 12 in No. 24.

Captain Luke to Brigadier-General Nelson.

Sir, *Port Antonio, October* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that all is quiet in the town of Port Antonio and neighbourhood, and the road to Manchioneal quite safe.

There are in the prison about thirty prisoners, and I have this day assembled a court-martial for their trial.

The schooner "Oracle" put into this port for provisions and water, having been a long time out from Kingston. Seeing by the paper that she is a suspected craft, and having five Haytians on board, as well as a supply of powder, I have deemed it advisable to detain her. The Haytians will be kept under guard in the barracks and the vessel not allowed to proceed. This step is necessary as the powder may fall into rebel hands.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Nettle" arrived last evening. The officer in command has informed me that he will be happy to meet my wishes, and is prepared to act with me in anything I may consider it advisable to do for the general good. I am training the Portland Volunteers, and find them a most willing body of men, and some are already excellent shots with the rifle. The officers co-operate with me most cheerfully.

For the good order kept in the town, and for the numerous prisoners apprehended, I have to thank Mr. Ramsay, Acting Inspector of Police. No man could be better qualified for the office. He is at work night and day, and I trust his very meritorious services may not be forgotten.

The troops are healthy and their conduct all I could desire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. F. LUKE.

Memorandum.

Mem.—I have ordered Captain Luke to search the vessel for papers.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON, *Brigadier.*

Inclosure 13 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 26, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of this day's date, and to return you my thanks for the information contained therein.

I quite approve the course taken by Captain Luke in detaining the "Oracle" and making prisoners of all on board, as stated in his official report to your Excellency, which I herewith beg to return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 14 in No. 24.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, "*Wolverine,*" *off Port Royal, October* 29, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that in compliance with your requisition I have brought the schooner "Oracle" from Port Antonio to this port, and request your Excellency will give directions for the proper authority (I presume the Collector of Customs) to take charge of the vessel and give instructions as to the disposal of the crew and passengers, who will be placed as prisoners on board the "Aboukir" for the night.

I have also to acquaint your Excellency that the arms, &c., for St. Ann's Bay were landed from the ship yesterday, and those for Buff Bay will be conveyed to-morrow by the gun-boat, the heavy surf on the north coast preventing my landing them.

I am happy to inform your Excellency that at the Port of St. Ann's Bay, Port Maria, and Annotto Bay everything was quiet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Passengers by schooner "Oracle."

Testacit Lemothe, J. H. Lamothe, James Fils, Adelson Freeman, and J. B. Vignier.

Crew of schooner "Oracle."

H. L. Gassna (captain), W. B. Coward (supercargo), John Williams, James Hayse, Albert Tauncent, James Merton, Charles Stanley, and Charles Heines.

Inclosure 15 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Captain De Horsey, R.N.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of yesterday's date relative to the "Oracle."

Pray keep her for the present at Port Royal and all the prisoners.

Can you tell if her papers were seized and examined, and whether they unfolded any intention of mixing up in the rebellion of Jamaica, or only a plot against the Haytian General?

In the former case we should try all the prisoners at once by Court-martial; in the latter we should at once deport them.

The ship is forfeited through the clandestine act of the owners or persons in charge of her in relanding part of the outward cargo.

Opinion of Attorney-General inclosed.

It will probably be better to condemn her by Court-martial.

Will you let me know if all the persons named in your communication as passengers

or crew are Haytians, or whether they are British-born or naturalised British subjects giving the names of such if any.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 16 in No. 24.

Opinion of the Attorney-General.

AS to the cargo, crew, and passengers of the "Oracle," and the ship herself, it is for the military authorities to decide whether or not the excuse for coming into port in the proclaimed district is genuine, or a mere pretext made with the intent of aiding the local insurrection if opportunity offered. If a mere pretext, they must be dealt with individually, according to martial law.

2. There cannot, I think, be a doubt that the Crown (having the unquestioned right of declaring war against any nation) can order any alien to quit its territory; and I think the mere custody and right of user of the island seal enables the Governor to exercise locally the like power. This power should be exercised by a command in the Queen's name, addressed to the several persons intended to be deported, ordering them within a fixed period to leave the island, and not to return hither without special licence of the Governor for the time being, under pain of being treated as under the martial law prevailing when arrested in the district from which they are ordered to depart.

Inclosure 17 in No. 24.

Captain De Horsey, R.N., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Wolverine," at Jamaica, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this date relative to the "Oracle."

I beg to forward herewith a list of the passengers and crew as requested by your Excellency; also a letter from Lieutenant Irvine, commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Nettle," reporting her seizure, which being in original, I request you will be good enough to return.

The vessel, cargo, prisoners, and all papers found on board are ready to be delivered to whoever your Excellency may authorize to receive them, and I shall be glad if your Excellency will have them taken charge of as soon as practicable, as there is no jail or suitable place for the custody of the prisoners.

I believe the papers were seized by the Provost-Marshal at Port Antonio, and delivered over to Captain Luke, 1st West Indian Regiment, who partly examined them, and informed me that there did not appear to be any evidence of complicity with the riots of Jamaica; but that they went to confirm the statement of the captain and supercargo that the object of the voyage was, to throw supplies for the Haytian rebels at Cape Hayti.

With reference to your Excellency's observation that it will be better to try the case of the "Oracle" by Court-martial, I beg to acquaint you that I am not aware of having any authority to deal with the case in that manner; all captures of vessels having, I believe, to be brought before a Prize Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. DE HORSEY.

Inclosure 18 in No. 24.

RETURN respecting Prisoners on board the "Aboukir."

Name.	Calling.	Nationality.	Whether British-born Subject, or Naturalized.
John Bates Vignen .. .	Commandant, Haytian Army ..	Haytian.	
Joseph Lamothe	Senator, Haytian Republic ..	Ditto.	
Joseph Fils	Officer, Haytian army ..	Ditto.	
Adelson Freeman	None	Ditto.	
Testacit Lemothe	None	Ditto.	
William Blanchard Coward ..	Supercargo	English	Born British subject.
John Williams	Steward	Ditto	Ditto.
James Hayes	Seaman	Ditto	Ditto.
James Morton	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
Chas. Stanley	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
Henry Gassna	Captain	Prussian.	
Albert Sarrat	Cook	French.	
Charles Hines	Seaman	Dane.	

"*Aboukir*," *Jamaica, October* 30, 1865.

(Signed) G. SMITH, *Commander.*

Inclosure 19 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, relative to the schooner "Oracle," I have the honour to inform you that the Court-martial referred to in my former letter as the Court which should condemn her is a Military Court-martial.

I have communicated the circumstances to General O'Connor, and requested him to have a Court-martial held upon the vessel at Port Royal, and I shall be obliged by your retaining possession of her until handed over to the military authorities, as well as by your placing in their hands all the papers relating to the "Oracle," including those transmitted in my letter of the 30th with the Attorney-General's opinion minuted upon one of the documents.

The Haytian prisoners I shall be obliged by your retaining also until an opportunity offers for them to leave the Colony, which they will be peremptorily ordered to do to-morrow. They should not be released in the island, but put on board whatever vessel they may select or hire to take them away after receiving an official order to depart and not return to Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—The prisoners who are British subjects may be released forthwith.

E. E.

Inclosure 20 in No. 24.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Admiralty House, Port Royal, November* 1, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 31st ultimo, relative to the disposal of the "Oracle," her crew and passengers, and acquaint your Excellency that your requests shall be attended to.

With reference to the postscript in your Excellency's letter, directing that the "prisoners who are British subjects may be released forthwith," I request you will acquaint me how the three prisoners who are not British subjects, but who formed part of the crew of the "Oracle," are to be disposed of.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. L. MC CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 21 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the schooner "Oracle," lately seized at Port Antonio, where martial law prevails, and being liable to forfeiture for having landed there, without entry, goods shipped for exportation, is now at Port Royal, where martial law also prevails.

It will, therefore, be desirable that a military Court-martial should be held at Port Royal to condemn the vessel as forfeited, on the grounds stated in an opinion of the Attorney-General, which is attached to papers now in possession of the Senior Naval Officer, but which I have requested may be transferred to the military authorities when required. The Attorney-General's opinion would show that certain pecuniary penalties are also incurred, but these cannot be adjudicated upon by a Court-martial, but would have to be referred to a Civil Court.

The cargo which was illicitly landed by the ship, and the boats engaged in landing it, are also subject to confiscation, but not the cargo which was left on board, or which was landed by our authorities after seizure of the vessel. It was the act of landing cargo illegally which subjected the vessel to confiscation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—The Haytian prisoners will be detained until put on board ship to quit the island, which they will be peremptorily ordered to do forthwith.

E. E.

Inclosure 22 in No. 24.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Kingston, November* 1, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of the 31st October, 1865, requesting that a Military Court may be assembled at Port Royal to condemn the schooner "Oracle" for landing goods shipped for exportation, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I consider it is not within my province to try a vessel by a Military Court, and am of opinion that it comes more within Admiralty jurisdiction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 23 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 2, 1865.

IN repply to your letter of yesterday's date, in reference to the schooner "Oracle," which I suggested should be tried by a Court-martial, but which your Excellency thinks ought to be tried by the Admiralty Court, I have the honour to state that the suggestion of a Military Court was made because she was captured in a district under martial law, and by the military authorities.

I will, however, now direct that she be placed in charge of the Customs and civil tribunal appointed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 24 in No. 24.

Mr. Jordon to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

(No. 1,931.)

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, November* 1, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit orders to the Haytian prisoners on board the "Aboukir" to quit Jamaica within fourteen days, and not to return to it under penalty

of being at once deported and delivered over to the Haytian Government. I shall be obliged by your causing these orders to be delivered to the respective prisoners, with an intimation that having abused the hospitality afforded to them by plotting against a Government at amity with Great Britain, they have forfeited the shelter and protection which England is always ready to afford to political refugees of any nation who conduct themselves peaceably and in accordance with the laws of the country whilst resident on British soil.

The prisoners should be kept in custody until they are put on board whatever vessel, when leaving Port Royal, they may select or hire to take them away; and in order to enable them to make their arrangements and obtain their effects, they may have free correspondence with parties on shore, all letters to and from being left open for the inspection of the officer of the guard in the ship where they are confined.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON.

Inclosure 25 in No. 24.

Victoria, by the grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of Jamaica, Supreme Lady, Defender of the Faith, to , an alien born out of our legiance, late of the city and parish of Kingston, but now detained under authority of martial law.

KNOW that for sufficient reason us thereunto moving, we have deemed it fitting and expedient to command and do hereby command you forthwith, and at furthest within the space of days, to depart from this our island, and not return hither without the special permission in writing of the Governor of this our island for the time being, under pain of being dealt with according to the martial law prevailing at the time of this our command in the district of the said island from which you are so ordered to depart.

And we further warn you that in case of your disobeying this our command by not so departing, we shall cause you to be taken to the country to which you owe natural allegiance.

Given at King's House, in the town of Saint Jago de la Vega, this day of , in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

Witness, his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of this our Island of Jamaica and other the Territories therein depending, in America, Governor and Commander-in-chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of Jamaica and Vice-Admiral of the same, at Saint Jago de la Vega, this day of , anno que Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and in the twenty-ninth year of our reign.

By his Excellency's command.

Inclosure 26 in No. 24.

Governor Eyre to Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock.

ir, *King's House, November 2, 1865.*

REFERRING to the correspondence on the subject of the schooner "Oracle," I have to inform you that the military authorities decline to try her by court-martial, and therefore shall be obliged by your delivering her over to the Customs authorities, who have been directed to receive her, in order that the Attorney-General may take the steps necessary to condemn her in the Vice-Admiralty Court.

The papers and documents would have to be handed over with her.

I have &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 27 in No. 24.

Memorandum for the Executive Committee.

THE Committee having recommended that Noel Crosswell, an alien, but domiciled as a merchant at Kingston for the last thirty years, should receive an order to quit the Colony, and not return to it, similar to those issued to the Haytians engaged in sending off an expedition with General Lamothe and others on board, and a cargo of gunpowder to aid the rebels against the constituted Government of the Republic of Hayti, and which is at amity with Great Britain, the Governor would wish the Committee to place in writing the grounds of their recommending Mr. Noel Crosswell to be included in the same orders to depart.

The Governor would also wish the Committee to state how long a time they advise Mr. Crosswell should be granted to quit the island, and whether he should be set at liberty during the interval to enable him to make his arrangements and dispose of his property, wind up his affairs, &c. Also whether, if to be set at liberty, securities, and to what amount, shall be taken for his fulfilling the obligation imposed upon him by the order.

In the case of the Haytians, fourteen days is allowed for their departure. They are kept prisoners until the ship they may elect to go in leaves Port Royal, but are allowed free communication in writing with any one; their letters to and fro being open, and subject to the inspection of the officer of the guard over them.

November 4, 1865. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 28 in No. 24.

Minute by the Executive Committee.

THE Committee recommended Mr. Crosswell's deportation because it was admitted to them by Coward, the supercargo of Crosswell's vessel, the "Oracle," that General Lamothe and other armed passengers, with 100 barrels of gunpowder, sailed in that vessel for the purpose of assisting the insurgents at Cape Haytien, and that that fact was well known to Crosswell; that the cargo and vessel belonging to Crosswell, were by his letter to Messrs. Hartmann, Pagenstecher, and Co., to be first offered for sale to the insurgents, clearly indicating Crosswell's desire for the success of those who were in rebellion against President Geffrard's Government. And the fact of his having for a partner in business one of the men ordered to be deported by the Governor for plotting against Geffrard, formed additional ground for the belief of the Committee that he was acting in entire complicity with the Haytians, and was, being an alien, although thirty years in business in Kingston, as deserving of punishment, if not more so than the Haytians themselves. We think Mr. Crosswell should be allowed no longer time and no greater facilities than Mr. Lubin, his partner, or any of the other Haytians ordered to be deported, for bringing his business to a close.

(Signed) HENRY WESTMORELAND.
ROBERT HAMILTON.
November 4, 1865. WM. HOSACK.

Inclosure 29 in No. 24.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November* 5, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to forward the despatch-bag of General Lamothe, taken out of the "Oracle," and received by me from Mr. Freeman, Collector of Customs, last night.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 30 in No. 24.

Mr. Freeman to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *York Lodge, St. Andrew's, November 5*, 1865.

IN obedience to your Excellency's orders conveyed in Mr. Secretary Jordon's letter dated the 3rd instant, No. 1,940, I directed Mr. John Davis to proceed to Port Royal to take charge of the "Oracle," and bring her up to Kingston Harbour, having previously deposited 100 kegs of gunpowder at Fort Charles, and her cargo to be landed and placed under the Customs locks until we receive further orders as to its disposal.

The despatch-bag of General Lamothe, containing a number of letters, was placed in my hands last evening by Mr. John Davis, and I sent it immediately to General O'Connor; who stated that it should be forwarded to your Excellency early this morning.

With this letter I have the honour to transmit a parcel containing letters, documents, and cargo-book found on board the "Oracle."

An attack of gout, which confines me to the house, prevents my being able personally to lay before your Excellency the papers I herewith send.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. FREEMAN.

No. 25.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 275.) (Answered No. 356, December 1, 1865, page 245.)

Sir, *King's House, November 8*, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of various correspondences with General O'Connor, chiefly relating to prisoners captured either by the military authorities, or taken into custody by the civil power and transferred to military keeping.

I shall address you separately by next packet in reference to the taking into custody of certain civilians, and to the seizing and examining of their papers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—The covering despatches forwarding the lists of prisoners are not sent, having got accidentally mislaid.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Kingston, October 25*, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to bring to the notice of your Excellency that there are now at Uppark Camp seventy-five civil prisoners sent there for safe custody by the surrounding magistrates and the authorities of Kingston.

Against many of these prisoners there appear to be no charges or evidence, nor even documents connected with them in any way.

Where evidence exists Courts-martial at once deal with the offenders; but with regard to the others, I would desire your views as to their disposal, their maintenance alone being a great expense to the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October 27*, 1865.

IN reply to your communication of 25th instant, informing me that there are seventy-five civil prisoners at Uppark Camp, sent there for safe custody, but against whom no

evidence has been produced, asking instructions as to their disposal, I have the honour to request your Excellency will be good enough to cause me to be furnished with a list of the names of the parties so detained, and a statement in such case of the name of the civil authority from whom or by whose direction they were conveyed to safe custody at Uppark Camp, in order that I may direct inquiries to be made in reference to the prisoners, and the grounds of their detention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 25.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, October* 25, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Excellency's information despatch and enclosure from that energetic and valuable officer, Brigadier-General Nelson, received by me at 6 o'clock this morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 25.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, Morant Bay, October* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that the great rebel Paul Bogle has been captured by the Maroons, under command of Colonel Fyfe. His trial will forthwith begin, and as the mass of evidence is so strong there is not a chance of his escaping the punishment he so well has earned.

I have under sentence the following: —

Moses Bogle, brother of Paul; George Craddock, secretary to Paul Bogle; J. M'Laren, occasional secretary to Paul Bogle; Barce, called captain-general, and a notorious rebel.*

So far as I can ascertain, nearly all who acted as leaders during the rebellion have been hung here, or at the different outposts, and scarcely a rebel of note remains uncaptured.

Paul Bogle's son-in-law, and the man who first entered the house of the late Mr. Hire, awaits execution.

Colonel Fyfe reports that he has captured a number of rebels armed with cutlasses, and has them under a guard, but had not time to take their names, owing to the urgency for rapid movements, he having received information of the whereabouts of Paul Bogle.

The conduct of the Maroons under the energetic and admirable guidance of their commanding officer, Colonel Fyfe is beyond all praise I have it in my power to bestow, but I assure you the valuable services of the Maroons have infinitely tended to crush the revolt.

Colonel Fyfe will continue to act according to occurring circumstances, and I feel assured he will clear the district he now is in, previous to quitting it.

Notwithstanding the rain for the last few days has been almost one incessant deluge since the Maroons left Moore Town, yet it has in no way checked their ardour.

Possibly the rebels, when planning their outbreak, embraced in their calculations that the wet season of October would be unfavourable to the movements of troops.

I continue to receive satisfactory reports from my outposts.†

I transmit for your consideration a letter received through Captain Hole, 2nd battalion 6th Royal Regiment, for I do not consider myself justified in giving a reply.

With respect to arms, I cannot tell what number of stands you may desire to spare.

With respect to the application for troops, the safety of all is for the present

* All hung at 5 P.M.—A. A. N.

† Easington, Manchioneal, Port Antonio, and Flying Column under my Aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Adcock, 2nd Battalion, 6th Royals.

provided for, consequently; neither of the above coming under the category of "emergency." I remit the letter for your decision.

Her Majesty's ship "Fawn" arrived this morning, and proceeds to carry out instructions given by Captain De Horsey, and will return to Port Royal, Thursday next, for I have no need of her services of special import, and I understand they are required elsewhere.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 25, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of yesterday's date, enclosing report from the Brigadier-General Nelson, conveying the satisfactory intelligence of the capture and execution of Paul Bogle, and of the general success of the military and other arrangements in the disturbed districts.

Pray assure Colonel Nelson and all others acting under him that I fully appreciate their zeal and activity, and the good and valuable service they have rendered to the Colony.

I return the inclosures to your letter after taking copies of them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 28, 1865.

IN consequence of the seizure of the papers of several individuals supposed to be concerned in exciting the late rebellion by seditious writings or speakings,* it is believed that documents will be found bearing testimony against the three prisoners sent yesterday to Morant Bay, and unless, therefore, the Brigadier-General considers he has already full and sufficient testimony against them, it is thought desirable that the trials of such of them as there is not sufficient evidence against should be postponed until after the papers and documents first referred to have been examined.

I should therefore be obliged by your sending a small party with a communication to this effect to Brigadier Nelson with as little delay as practicable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 25.

STATEMENT of Civil Prisoners confined at Up-Park Camp, Jamaica, from October 14, to October 28, 1865.

No.	Names.	When Confined.	By whom Confined.	Charge.	When Disposed of.	How Disposed of.	Remarks.
		1865.			1865.		
1	Joseph Thompson ...	Oct. 14	Inspector Downer	Traitorous, rebellious, and threatening language	Oct. 21	Tried by court-martial; flogged and released.	
2	Richard Prendergast	14	Colonel Elkington	... ...	19	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
3	William Henry ...	15	Justice Keat	... ...	19	Released.	
4	James Blisset ...	16	Guard, 2nd bat. 6th Regt., Kingston.	... ...	19	Ditto.	
5	William Mc Leod ...	16	Constable Newlands ...	Ditto	21	Tried by court-martial; released.	Sentenced to receive 50 lashes; inflicted.
6	James Beard ...	16	Police Sergeant Mc Taggart	... ...	19	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
7	Henry Brown ...	17	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt., Kingston.	... ...	28	Released, being deemed innocent.	
8	Edward Lodge ...	17	Ditto	... ...	28	Ditto.	
9	John Karr	17	Colonel Hobbs, 2nd batt. 6th Regt.				
10	— Mosely	17	Ditto	Joining in rebellion ...	21	Tried by court-martial; flogged and released.	
11	Douglas Mc Gowan .	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	... ...	No evidence
12	Richard Francis ...	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	... ...	Ditto.

* Dr. Bruce, A. Phillips, and —— Morris.

No.	Names.	When Confined.	By whom Confined.	Charge.	When Disposed of.	How Disposed of.	Remarks.
		1865.			1865.		
13	Lendrick Wilson	Oct. 17	Colonel Hobbs, 2nd batt. 6th Regt.	Joining in rebellion	Oct. 25	Tried by court-martial (21st Oct.); sent to Penitentiary.	Sentenced to death; commuted to years' penal servitude.
14	Thomas Gardner	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	No evidence.
15	Thomas Williams	17	Ditto	Ditto	25	Tried by court-martial (21st Oct.); sent to Penitentiary.	Sentenced to death; commuted to years' penal servitude.
16	Gilbert Francis	17	Ditto	Ditto	26	Tried by court-martial (24th Oct.); released.	Sentenced to receive 50 lashes; inflicted.
17	James Reid	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	No evidence.
18	Nicholas Durrant	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
19	George Anthony	17	Ditto	Ditto	25	Tried by court-martial (21st Oct.); sent to Penitentiary.	Sentenced to death; commuted to years' penal servitude.
20	Henry Francis	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	No evidence.
21	Mary A. Colburne	17	Ditto	Ditto	19	Released, being deemed innocent.	
22	Sarah White	17	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
23	Thomas Douglas	18	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt., Kingston.	Ditto	25	Tried by court-martial (21st Oct.): sent to Penitentiary.	Sentenced to death; commuted to years' penal servitude.
24	John Virgin	18	Ditto	Ditto	25	Ditto	Ditto.
25	William Hamilton	18	Ditto	Ditto	18	Released, being deemed innocent.	
26	George Melvin	18	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	No evidence.
27	James Spencer	18	Ditto	...	18	Released, being deemed innocent.	
28	Richard Mc Key	18	Police, Monclands	...	28	Ditto.	
29	Mary A. Mc Key	18	Ditto	...	28	Ditto.	
30	Jane Williams	18	Ditto	...	28	Ditto.	
31	Robert Kirkland	18	Royal Artillery, Port Royal	...	19	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
32	J. A. Lutas	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
33	George Harris	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
34	James Nixon	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
35	Samuel Harris	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
36	John Patterson	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
37	Richard Harrison	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
38	Charles Francis	18	Ditto	...	19	Ditto.	
39	Francis Reid	18	Police	...	19	Released, being deemed innocent.	
40	Daniel Hart	18	Ditto	...	28	Summarily received three doz. lashes, and released.	
41	James Anderson	18	Ditto	...	19	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
42	Wm. Kelly Smith	19	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt., Kingston.	...	21	Sent to Port Royal, on board "Aboukir."	
43	E. Goldson	19	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
44	Isaac M. Vaz	19	Ditto	...	21		
45	Robert Osborne	19	Police, sent in from Monck-lands.	...	21	Released being deemed innocent.	
46	Thomas Rennie	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
47	David La Hoste	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
48	James R. Birch	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
49	James Robertson	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
50	Joshua Rowley	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
51	Edward Prince	19	Ditto	Joining in rebellion	26	Tried by court-martial; released.	Sentenced to receive fifty lashes; inflicted.
52	William Moore	19	Ditto	...	...	...	No evidence.
53	James Sylvester	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
54	Dennis Fulur	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
55	Stephen Telfer	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
56	William Darnce	19	Constable A. Jones	...	26	Sent to Port Morant, for trial.	
57	James Darnce	19	Constable J. Taylor	...	26	Ditto.	
58	William Bood	19	Constable J. Anderson	...	26	Ditto.	
59	James Uniacke	19	Ditto	...	26	Ditto.	
60	William Robinson	19	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
61	H. J. Dick	19	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt. Kingston.	...	21	Sent to Port Royal, on board "Aboukir."	
62	J. Mc Lean	19	...	...	21	Ditto.	
63	Daniel Wheeler	19	Constable Benjamin	...	...	...	Ditto.
64	Alexander Miller	20	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt.	...	21	Sent to Port Royal, on board "Aboukir."	
65	John H. Crole	20	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
66	William Mc Cormack	20	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
67	Thomas Harry	20	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
68	Alexander Jeffries	20	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
69	James Roache	20	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
70	John Williams	20	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
71	Thomas Reid	20	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
72	General Lubin	20	Police escort	Political	...	...	Ditto.
73	Jos. A. Lubin	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
74	Anacreon Lubin	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
75	Villais Lubin	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
76	General Sol. Jeune	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
77	Emil Pierre	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
78	Jean Bart	20	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
79	Frederick Walker	20	Inspector Downe	...	25	Released, being deemed innocent.	
80	Francis Kellerman	21	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt.	...	21	Sent to Port Royal, on board "Aboukir."	
81	Samuel Clarke	21	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
82	John Wood	21	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
83	Hy. Nath. Harris	21	Ditto	...	21	Sent to Port Royal, on board "Aboukir."	
84	Edwin Palmer	21	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
85	Robert Davis	21	Ditto	...	21	Ditto.	
86	Solomon Le Mothe	21	Police escort	Political	...	...	Ditto.
87	Achilde Cejus	21	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
88	Jane Brown	21	Ditto	...	23	Released, being deemed innocent.	
89	Alice Maddox	21	Ditto	...	23		
90	Thomas Richards	21	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
91	Alfred Despuit	21	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
92	William Amos	22	Guard, 2nd bat 6th Regt., Kingston.	...	...	...	Ditto.
93	Joseph Oleivia	22	Ditto	Political	...	...	Ditto.
94	George Williams	22	Ditto	...	...	...	Ditto.
95	Marc. C. Benuzzi	22	Police escort	Political	...	...	Ditto.
96	Fred. A. B. Vinen	22	Ditto	Ditto	...	...	Ditto.
97	Edward Curtin	22	Major Anton	...	23	Released, being deemed innocent.	
98	Robert Brown	22	Police escort	Found with a cutlass and knife, and not able to give a satisfactory explanation.	28	Summarily received three doz. lashes, and released.	
99	Thomas Williams	23	Police from Kingston gaol	Traitorous, rebellious, and threatening language.	25	Tried by court-martial (24th Oct.); sent back to gaol.	Sentenced to receive fifty lashes; inflicted.

No.	Name.	When Confined.	By whom Confined.	Charge.	When Disposed of.	How Disposed of.	Remarks.
		1865.			1865.		
100	Pierre Walsh ...	Oct. 23	Police from Spanish Town .	... ...	Oct. 28	Released, being deemed innocent.	
101	James Copeland ...	23	Police from Kingston ...	... ...	26	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
102	Henry Burgess ...	23	Ditto	... ...	25	Released, being deemed innocent.	
103	George Steadman ...	23	Ditto	... ...	25	Ditto.	
104	Edward Burnside ...	23	Police from Half-way Tree .	... ...	27	Released; receiving summarily thirty-six lashes.	
105	Mary Johnson ...	24	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Foot, Kingston.	... ...	27	Released, being deemed innocent.	
106	Chas. G. Morgan ...	24	Volunteer Guard, Spanish Town.	... ...	...	... ...	No evidence.
107	James Bryan ...	24	Police from Kingston ...	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
108	Thomas Davis ...	24	Police from Half-way Tree	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
109	Jane Mitchell ...	24	Ditto	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
110	Henry Wallace ...	24	Ditto	Disrespectful and threatening language towards a Justice of the Peace.	...	Tried by court-martial (27th Oct.); released.	Sentenced to receive fifty lashes; inflicted.
111	Thomas Hamilton ...	24	Ditto	... ...	...	... ...	No evidence.
112	George Trueman ...	24	Ditto	... ...	25	Released, being deemed innocent.	
113	Robert Graham ...	25	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Foot, from Kingston.	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
114	James Manual ...	25	Ditto	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
115	Alexander Gardner .	25	Police from Half-way Tree .	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
116	Elizabeth Humming	25	Ditto	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
117	Walter Whitfinch ...	25	Escort from Spanish Town	... ...	...	... ...	Ditto.
118	Noel Crosswell ...	25	Inspector Nairne, Kingston	Political.			
119	Dr. Robt. Bruce ...	25	Escort from Spanish Town	... ...	26	Sent to Port Morant for trial.	
120	Alexander Phillips .	25	Ditto	... ...	26	Ditto.	
121	Benjamin Morris ...	25	Ditto	... ...	26	Ditto.	
122	Frederick Jones ...	25	Guard, 2nd batt. 6th Regt., Penitentiary.	Taitorous and rebellious language, and endeavouring to incite other persons to sedition and rebellion.	27	Tried by court-martial (26th Oct.)	Sentenced to be hanged; inflicted.
123	Richard Warren ...	26	Police from St. Thomas-in-the-East.	... ...	...	... ...	No evidence.
124	David Phillips ...	26	Police from Kingston ...	Insolence and disrespect to Volunteer guard and sentry.	28	Summarily received four doz. lashes, and released.	
125	Robert Thompson ...	27	Police from Half-way Tree	... ...	...	... ...	
126	E. P. Davis	27	Police from St. David's ...	General Jackson, J. P. ...	27	Released, being deemed innocent.	A very respectable man.
127	John W. Maynard ...	28	Inspector Nairne ...	... ...	...	... ...	No evidence.

(Signed) J. H. PRENDERVILLE,
Major, Unattached, Provost Marshal.

Up-Park Camp, October 28, 1865.

Inclosure 8 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, October* 30, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 28th instant inclosing a list of prisoners confined at Uppark Camp from the 14th to the 28th instant, and beg to state in reply that I will direct inquiries to be made as to what evidence is likely to be forthcoming with regard to those prisoners who are not yet disposed of.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the civil authorities have reported to me that all the evidence likely to be available is now collected against the individuals named in the accompanying list and attached to it.

There is now no reason why the Courts-martial should not at once inquire into and dispose of these cases.

It is considered desirable for political reasons that the Courts-martial upon the prisoners now on board the "Aboukir" should be held at Port Royal (which is under martial law) instead of at Uppark Camp, if your Excellency will be pleased so to arrange it.

Those of the prisoners at Uppark Camp would of course be tried at the place, if there they are now confined.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the evidence against the prisoners at Up Park Camp, named in the margin,* being now complete as far as it can be arranged here, but other evidence being said to be available at Morant Bay, I shall be obliged by your directing that they be sent to-morrow morning to Port Royal to be embarked on board a man-of-war for Morant Bay.

There are also nine prisoners, named in the inclosed list, on board Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," for whose delivery for transport to Morant Bay, by the same opportunity, I have also to ask your Excellency's order.

It was intended that most of these prisoners should have been tried at Up park Camp, but the gentlemen engaged in getting up the evidence have reported to me late this evening that as some of the prisoners must go to Morant Bay for further evidence [?] against the different prisoners is so mixed up together, it will be most convenient and save considerable delay and confusion to have the whole eleven sent to Morant Bay.

The civil authorities at Kingston will put up the evidence all arranged, and accompanied by some memorandum addressed to Brigadier-General Nelson, and have it delivered in charge of the Captain of the man-of-war, together with the prisoners.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

List of Prisoners.

W. Kelly Smith	"Aboukir."	Rev. E. Palmer	"Aboukir."
*Saml. Clarke	Up-Park Camp.	Rev. J. H. Crale	Ditto.
E. J. Goldson	"Aboukir."	Thos. Harvey	Ditto.
J. M. Vaz	Ditto.	Wm. McCormack	Ditto.
— Roach	Ditto.	*Robt. Levy	Up-Park Camp.
Alex. Miller	Ditto.		

Inclosure 11 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, October* 30, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's despatch, forwarding to me a list of the prisoners at Up Park Camp, I notice that a considerable number of them, not yet dealt with, have been sent in by Colonel Hobbs, or by police from Moncklands and that district of country.

I would beg to suggest that Colonel Hobbs should be requested to furnish all the evidence he can, either written or oral, against each and all of the prisoners sent in under his authority; and in the event, after such a reference, of no sufficient evidence being procurable to try them at Up Park Camp, I would recommend they should be sent to Morant Bay for identification. If on arrival there, no evidence of serious crime was obtainable, they would, as a matter of course, be released; and it would be better if this has to be done eventually, that the release should take place at Morant Bay and not at Kingston.

The Haytian political prisoners will have to be detained a few days longer, until the papers seized on board the "Oracle" can be examined; if there is no proof of complicity with the Jamaica rebellion, they will be deported from the Island as aliens who have outraged the shelter and hospitality afforded them, by plotting, whilst so harboured, against a Government at amity with Great Britain.

The cases of all the other prisoners are being inquired into by the authorities, and will be reported upon in a short time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—It is right to mention that martial law ceases under the law which sanctioned its being established on the 13th proximo, and that consequently it will be requisite to get

through all the cases for trial before that date. If any of the prisoners sent in by Colonel Hobbs, or the party of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, were taken in arms or with stolen property in their possession, the parties who captured them should appear before the Courts to give evidence against them. It is only the captors who can declare the grounds upon which the captures were made.

E. E.

Inclosure 12 in No. 25.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 31, 1865.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date at 9 o'clock A.M.

Some days ago, by my direction, Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, Deputy Adjutant-General, called upon Colonel Hobbs, 2nd battalion 6th Royals, for a list in detail of all prisoners captured by that officer while engaged in the field; their offence, evidence, and every particular connected with each case.

When furnished with the necessary documents I will give instructions for the suggestion conveyed in your Excellency's communication to be carried into effect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 13 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to the Custos of Kingston.

Sir, *King's House, October* 31, 1865

IN reference to the request made by you yesterday, to have the cases and evidence looked into, with regard to the prisoners at Up Park Camp, and on board Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," I have now to inform you that a man-of-war will be sent from Port Royal on Wednesday, the 1st proximo, to Morant Bay, to take Colonel Lewis and Mr. Bicknell, and any prisoners whom it is considered desirable to send there.

You will be good enough, therefore, to take care that all such prisoners from Up Park Camp as, upon the examination aforesaid, you consider ought to be sent to Morant Bay for trial, be forwarded to Port Royal to-morrow morning, as early as practicable, and that the inspector of police be sent down to select those among the prisoners in the "Aboukir" who, you consider, should also go.

The evidence available should, of course, in each case accompany the prisoner.

Those prisoners sent in by Colonel Hobbs or his party should not be sent on until after Colonel Hobbs has reported the grounds of their capture, and the evidence he is able to produce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 14 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Governor's Secretary's Office, November* 1, 1865.

I SHALL be much obliged by your Excellency causing me to be furnished with the Christian and surnames in full of every prisoner now at Up Park Camp, who is not a natural born or a naturalized British subject, stating the country to which each belongs, in order that I may take steps for having those removed from the country who have been mixed up in any plots against the Government of Hayti, a country at amity with Great Britain.

It should be ascertained, if possible, whether Mr. Crosswell, one of the prisoners, is an alien or not.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 15 in No. 25.

NOMINAL ROLL of Prisoners at Up Park Camp who are not Natural-Born or Naturalized British Subjects.

No.	Names.	Country.	Remarks.
1	General Solomon Jeune	Hayti.	
2	General Vil de Lubin	Ditto.	
3	Josiah A. Lubin	Ditto.	
4	Anacreon Lubin	Ditto.	
5	Villais Lubin	Ditto.	
6	Emile Pierre	Ditto.	
7	Jean Bart	Ditto.	
8	Solomon Lemothe	Ditto.	
9	Archilde Cejus	Ditto.	
10	Joseph Oleivia	Ditto.	
11	Maximilian C. Benuzzi	Italy.	
12	Noel Crosswell	Germany ..	Over thirty years resident in Jamaica.
13	George Wellington	Denmark.	

Up Park Camp. November 2, 1865.

(Signed) J. H. PRENDERVILLE, *Major,*
Unattached Provost-Marshal.
JOHN ELKINGTON, *Lieutenant-Colonel,*
Deputy Adjutant-General.

Inclosure 16 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit formal notices to the persons named in the margin * (being aliens), to quit Jamaica within fourteen days, and not return to it again.

When the orders are delivered, I should be obliged by your causing the prisoners to be informed, that having abused the hospitality afforded to them by plotting against a Government at amity with Great Britain, they have forfeited the shelter and protection which England is always ready to afford to political refugees, of any nation, who conduct themselves peaceably, and in accordance with the laws of the country, whilst resident on British soil.

The parties are to be kept in custody until put on board whatever ship they may select or hire, to take them away from the Island; and in order to enable them to make their arrangements and obtain their effects, they may have free communication in writing with any one, their letters to and from being open to the inspection of the officer of the guard under whose charge they are.

When they have decided upon the vessel they intend to embark in, they will be put on board, in charge of the police, until the ship leaves Port Royal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 17 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 4, 1865.

REFERRING to my letter of this day's date forwarding notices to various persons therein named, to quit the Colony within fourteen days, and not return to it, I have now the honour to enclose a similar notice to Noel Crosswell, and to request your Excellency will be pleased to consider it and deal with it exactly the same as if it had been included in the letter above referred to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

* John Willis Mamoud, Solomon Jesse, Vil de Lubin, Josiah A. Lubin, Solomon Lamothe, Jean Bart, Emile Pierre, Villais Lubin, Anacreon Lubin, Joseph Oleivia, and Archilde Cejus.

Inclosure 18 in No. 25.

Mr. Bicknell to Colonel Hunt.

Sir, *Morant Bay, November* 5, 1865.

I HAD only time to write you yesterday a hurried letter, enclosing a communication from Brigadier-General Nelson, acquainting me that it was not his intention to bring to trial the prisoners arrested in Kingston, namely, W. Kelly Smith, Goldson, and the others, or Dr. Bruce, or Mr. Levien. The Brigadier-General is of opinion that the Court-Martial has no jurisdiction to entertain a charge of uttering seditious language previous to the rebellion, and that it is questionable whether the Court has jurisdiction to entertain a charge for expressing sympathy with the rebellion after its outbreak.

There is no evidence to prove actual complicity in the rebellion.

I suppose his Excellency the General Commanding will communicate with his Excellency the Governor on the subject.

I shall collect all the evidence I can get against the prisoners, for the information of his Excellency.

I shall remain here, awaiting his Excellency's further instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY J. BICKNELL, *Police Magistrate.*

Inclosure 19 in No. 25.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters House, November* 5, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for the perusal of your Excellency a despatch received from Brigadier-General Nelson commanding the forces in the field.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 20 in No. 25.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Morant Bay, November* 4, 1865, 6 P.M.

I HAVE the honour fo request the favour of your informing his Excellency the Governor, that having deemed it my duty to refer a case of one of the prisoners sent up for trial, namely, William Kelly Smith, in order that I might be informed on certain points connected therewith, so that the decision on such case might be my guide as to the disposal of the cases of the prisoners from Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," Dr. Bruce and Mr. Levien, and having just had the honour to receive your opinion on the several points submitted, I have arrived at the decision that on my own responsibility I do not consider myself justified in arraigning these prisoners before a court-martial. My reason for thus doing so is—these prisoners all uttered the sentiments which are said to be seditious prior to the rebellion, and though I may have the power and authority under martial law (a power to myself very doubtful) yet it is a power I do not feel myself justified in exercising, and which I shall not exert unless I receive positive orders so to do.

The prisoners shall be kept under surveillance till your instructions respecting their disposal be received.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

I ENTIRELY coincide in the opinion of Brigadier-General Nelson. We may have the authority and power, but would not be justified to try the prisoners by a military court-martial.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Head-Quarters House, November 5, 1865.

Inclosure 21 in No. 25.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 6, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, transmitting a despatch received from Brigadier-General Nelson, expressing his intention not to bring to trial by court-martial certain prisoners sent from Kingston and Montego Bay, on the grounds that the charges against them are for acts prior to the rebellion.

I assume that in coming to this decision, Brigadier Nelson has satisfied himself in each case that there is no evidence directly connecting the prisoners with the immediate outbreak in St. Thomas in the East, and in this view of the case I consider Brigadier-General Nelson has exercised a wise and just discrimination in coming to the determination he has done.

I have to request your Excellency will be pleased to direct the prisoners referred to to be detained at Morant Bay until further orders, and that all the papers connected with their respective cases may at once be sent down to me for submission to the Attorney-General in order that he may report if there are sufficient grounds to take civil proceedings upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 26.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 276.) (Answered No. 373, December 16, 1865, page 254.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of correspondence which I have had with General O'Connor in reference to the advance of a loan from 15,000*l.* to 20,000*l.* from the Commissariat to the Colony should it be required.

The enormous expense entailed by the rebellion may probably quite exhaust the funds in the Island Chest, and as it may take some little time to effect any financial arrangements for meeting this crisis, I should be obliged by your moving the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury to sanction the loan asked for (if required), to be repaid as soon as the Colony is able to make the necessary arrangements.

The mere expense of volunteers, extra police, rural and special constables, &c., &c., cannot be much less than 5,000*l.* per week, but it is impossible at present to arrive at any correct estimate, so numerous and scattered are the localities where the volunteers or constables are employed, and so imperfect are the returns yet before me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 3, 1865.

IN consequence of the occurrence of the rebellion in the eastern provinces, and the very heavy and unexpected expenditure thereby entailed upon the Colony, it is very possible that the funds in the Colonial Chest may not be sufficient to meet our requirements in the emergency; and I should be glad to learn whether, if such should be the case, you could sanction a loan from the Commissariat Chest to the Colony of 15,000*l.* or 20,000*l.*, until arrangements can be made for meeting the probable deficiency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, November* 4, 1865.

IN reply to your communication of the 3rd instant, desiring to know if I could sanction a loan from the Commissariat Chest to the Colony of 15,000*l.* or 20,000*l.* until arrangements can be made for meeting the probable deficiency, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Commissariat at this station will be prepared, on a short notice being given, to advance any amount that may be required by the Colony.

I do not know how far I am authorized in doing this, but in the present aspect of affairs, and to meet the urgency of the case, I will willingly do all in my power to assist the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 27.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 277.)
Sir, *King's House, November* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter and telegram which were forwarded by the Executive Committee on the 16th October, whilst I was absent at the seat of the rebellion, soliciting aid from Sir James Hope and from the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

I am in hopes that these applications may not have been acted upon, as there is every reason to believe that we shall be sufficiently protected by the force now available in the Colony.

Sir F. L. McClintock sent a man-of-war to Cuba some days ago to telegraph to the Admiral that further assistance was not now required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

The Government of Jamaica to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana.

(Telegraphic.)
REBELLION of the Blacks in the eastern part of Jamaica.
More force required.
British Consul is requested immediately to write intelligence and requirement or reinforcement, by first steamer to New York, to the British Consul there, and the latter officer to telegraph to Admiral Hope or senior naval officer at Halifax, and to the Governor of Nova Scotia, soliciting immediate naval and military assistance to Port Royal, Jamaica.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

The Secretary of the Executive Committee to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana.

Sir, *Kingston, October* 16, 1865.

UNDER the authority of his Excellency the Governor, and by direction of the Executive Committee of the Government of Jamaica, I have the honour to inform you that a rebellion of the blacks has broken out in the eastern part of this island, and it is necessary to obtain, with the least possible delay, further military and naval forces to aid in putting down the insurrection.

I am therefore to request that you will be so good as to communicate immediately to the British Consul at New York the message which is forwarded herewith (for transmission to you by telegraph from St. Jago de Cuba), and request that officer to telegraph to Admiral Hope or the senior naval officer at Halifax, and to the Governor of Nova

Scotia, the intelligence, and the requirement for the naval and military reinforcements to be sent to Port Royal, Jamaica.

I am also to request that you will take all other steps in your power towards accomplishing the highly important object in view.

I am to add that every incidental expense will be reimbursed by the Government of Jamaica, with due acknowledgment for this service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. R. MYERS.

No. 28.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 278.)
Sir, *King's House, November 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a petition which was addressed to me by certain persons residing in St. Thomas in the East.

The petition is dated the 10th October, and reached me late on the 11th, the very day the massacres took place. The parties signing it were chief actors in those massacres.

I append a copy of the reply, which was written on the 12th, before we were aware of what had occurred.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Petition of James Dacres and others.

To his Excellency E. J. Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica.

WE, the petitioners of St. Thomas in the East, do send to inform your Excellency of the mean advantages that has been taken of us from time to time, and more especially this present time, when on Saturday, 7th of this month, an outrageous assault was committed upon us by the policemen of this parish, by order of the Justices, which occasion an outbreaking for which warrants have been issued against innocent persons of which we were compelled to resist. We therefore call upon your Excellency for protection, seeing we are Her Majesty's loyal subjects, which protection, if refused, we will be compelled to put our shoulders to the wheels, as we have been imposed upon for a period of "twenty-seven years," with due obeisance to the laws of our Queen and country, and we can no longer endure the same; therefore is our object of calling upon your Excellency as Governor-in-Chief and Captain of our island. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed)	James Dacres.	(Signed)	Wm. Bowie.
	J. R. Smith.		James Mc Laren.
	James Bowie.		Stephen Cameron.
	Paul Bogle.		Charles Maine.
	Joseph Kelly.		Alex. Badson.
	Moses Bogle.		William Grant.
	William Forbes.		Edward Howell.
	Archibald Baily.		George Gordon.
	Thomas Grahame.		Abm. Anderson.
	Wm. Bogle.		Brisco Paterson.

Stony Gut, October 10, 1865.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Mr. Jordon to James Dacres and others.

Sirs, *Governor's Secretary's Office, October 12, 1865.*

I HAVE received and laid your communication of the 10th instant before his Excellency the Governor, and am directed by him to remark that you do not state the

nature of the grievance you complain of, nor give any particulars, so that his Excellency has no means of judging how far you have any just cause of complaint.

The laws of the country apply equally to the labourers and the proprietors, and if any party at any time feels aggrieved at or dissatisfied with the decisions of the Justices, there is an appeal to the Circuit Courts.

The Governor will also always be ready to listen to and, so far as he can properly do so, inquire into any circumstance which the people think press hardly upon them; but his Excellency cannot entertain any application when pressed upon him with the accompaniment of threats.

In the present instance the Governor is aware, from other sources, that some of you had been guilty of gross outrage and violence, and he warns you that such proceedings cannot be allowed to take place with impunity.

His Excellency feels it to be his duty at once to inform you that you are misled by the misrepresentations of evil-disposed and designing men, and that unless you promptly withdraw from the unlawful attitude which you have assumed, very serious consequences must follow.

I have to remark, in conclusion, that it is his Excellency's determination to vindicate and uphold the majesty of the law.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Governor's Secretary.*

No. 29.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 279.)

Sir, *King's House, November 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a resolution adopted by the Governor in Privy Council on the 6th instant, recording their appreciation of and thanks for the services rendered by the military and naval authorities and by the volunteers during the recent rebellion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Extract from Resolution passed at Privy Council.

At a Privy Council, November 6, 1865.

Resolved:

THAT his Excellency the Governor in Privy Council, and the Privy Council, being of opinion that no reasonable cause now exists for expecting a continuance or revival of the late insurrection in the eastern districts of the island, take this opportunity, on their first meeting in Council since the proclamation of martial law, of expressing their grateful thanks to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B., and Captain De Horsey, R.N., late Senior Naval Officer, and the officers, non-commissioned and warrant officers, and men of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, and the volunteers, for their judicious, zealous, loyal, prompt, and effectual services in quelling a rebellion by which the lives and property of many loyal subjects were destroyed, and those of all loyal subjects in this island were imminently threatened.

Ordered:

That the Clerk of the Privy Council do communicate to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B., Captain De Horsey, R.N., late Senior Naval Officer, and to Colonel Hunt, Military Secretary of Volunteers, the foregoing resolution of the Honourable Privy Council of this day.

No. 30.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 283.) (Answered No. 366, December 16, 1865, page 253.)

Sir, *King's House, November 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a unanimous resolution of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, recording their deep regret at the loss of the valuable services of so upright and able a member of their Board as was the late Baron Von Ketelhodt.

I fully share in the feelings of admiration and respect expressed by the Legislative Council for this accomplished and distinguished gentleman, whose death is a public loss.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 30.

Extract from Resolution of Legislative Council.

In Legislative Council, November 8, 1865.

Resolved: *nemine dissentiente.*

THAT the Legislative Council desires to record its deep regret at the death of the Honourable Maximilian Augustus, Baron Von Ketelhodt, a member of this Board, who lost his life on Wednesday, the 11th day of October last, by a most wicked, treacherous, and savage onslaught of rebellious negroes, in the parish of St. Thomas in the East, whilst in discharge of his duties as Custos of that parish; and the Legislative Council hereby expresses its high respect and esteem for his character as an upright, able, and honourable member of the Board, and bears its testimony to the great loss that the community has sustained.

(Signed) SAML. RENNALLS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

No. 31.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 284.) (Answered No. 358, December 1, 1865, page 250.)

Sir, *King's House, November 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the Address with which I opened the Legislative Session this day.

Recent events have shown the immense importance of having a strong and united Government, and I have taken advantage of the opportunity to press upon the attention of the Legislature the advisability of doing away with the present cumbrous and unworkable form of constitution under which the island nominally enjoys a mockery of representative institutions, but, in reality, is weighed down by an uncontrollable House of Assembly that for the most part obstructs and impedes anything like united action or consistent and useful legislation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—I also enclose a copy of a circular letter I addressed to every member of the Legislature eleven days before that fixed for its assembling.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Speech of Governor Eyre on the Opening of the Legislative Session.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

IN appearing before you to-day to open our ordinary Legislative Session, I cannot but feel that the sad and solemn events of the last few weeks impart to our meeting a

deeper interest than ordinary; and they certainly make me more than usually anxious to seek your advice and ask or your co-operation.

The present is indeed a most critical period in the history of Jamaica, and the Session now being inaugurated will in all probability be one of the most important and momentous ever held in this Colony.

The occurrence of a most wicked and unprovoked rebellion in the eastern division of the island has brought sorrow and suffering upon the whole community. The valuable lives of many noble and gallant men, who were ornaments to the land, have been sacrificed (whilst peaceably meeting in the discharge of their duties to the State) by a most savage and cruel butchery, only to be paralleled by the atrocities of the Indian mutiny. A large amount of property has been destroyed, an immense expense has been entailed on the country, and one of the richest and most productive districts of the colony has been left without resident proprietor or manager to reap the abundant crops now ready for the harvest.

Through the hearty co-operation of civil, military, and naval authorities, and through the promptness and untiring zeal and energy of all; but, above all, through God's blessing upon the means used, this most diabolical conspiracy to murder the white and coloured inhabitants of this colony has been effectually subdued, and the principal actors in and chief instigators of it have been brought under the punishment of death so justly due to their most heinous offences.

To his Excellency General O'Connor I am deeply indebted for the readiness and promptitude with which, on the occurrence of the outbreak, he met all my demands for troops, and co-operated with me in the various arrangements I proposed, as well as for the active, zealous, and able manner in which, in conjunction with the Executive Committee and with the civil authorities of Kingston, he carried into effect many important and necessary arrangements for the protection of Kingston, or to afford assistance to other localities, where apprehensions were entertained, whilst I was myself absent at the seat of the disturbances.

To the senior naval officer, Captain De Horsey, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," we owe it that we were enabled to carry out with promptitude and efficiency the arrangements necessary to control and suppress the rebellion. The "Wolverine" and her gallant captain were kept almost unceasingly at work day and night, in all weather, and off a lee coast, but all was done with hearty good will, zeal, and cheerfulness.

To Brigadier-General Nelson is due the greatest credit for the rapid and skilful manner in which he carried out the various movements of the troops which I wished to be made, whilst personally superintending the operations in the disturbed districts. The admirable manner in which the Brigadier-General made all his arrangements, and his untiring zeal and energy, contributed largely to the successful results achieved; whilst the ability and tact with which he ordered the internal organisation of the places occupied gave confidence to and commanded the respect of the inhabitants.

To Colonel Hobbs the colony is indebted for the prevention of the spread of the rebellion along the line of the Blue Mountain Valley, and for the interception and punishment of many rebels who were driven westward by the operations under Brigadier-General Nelson.

Lieutenant Brand of Her Majesty's ship "Onyx" is entitled to the highest praise for the unceasing and valuable services rendered by the little gun-boat under his command.

To the fidelity and loyalty of the Maroons, it is due that the negroes did not commit greater devastations and that the rebellion has not been a more protracted one. It is to them also, under the able leadership of their indefatigable former Captain, now Colonel Fyfe, that the chief rebel leader, Paul Bogle, was captured, and that the recesses of the mountain fastnesses were searched and the insurgents captured, destroyed, or driven from them.

To the members of the Legislature who accompanied me, and who, upon my leaving, still remained in the field at great personal inconvenience and sacrifices away from their homes and ordinary avocations, to carry on their arduous duties, the Colony is deeply indebted.

The Executive Committee and their indefatigable secretary, Mr. Myers, laboured unceasingly and most anxiously to provide for the public safety.

My Aide-de-camp, Colonel Hunt, rendered zealous and able service both to myself and to Brigadier-General Nelson.

But to each and all of the officers and men of the civil, military, and naval services, as well as of the volunteers (who have done their duty nobly) the colony owes a deep and lasting debt of gratitude and thanks. All vied with each other in zealously doing their duty, and that they did it well is evinced by the successful results attained.

Within three days from the first intelligence of the rebellion reaching Kingston i was headed, checked, and hemmed in; within a week it was fairly crushed, and arrangements made for scouring the entire district to capture and punish the guilty who had not yet met their just doom.

So wide-spread a rebellion so rapidly and so effectually put down, is not, I believe, to be met with in history, and speaks volumes for the zeal, courage, and energy of those engaged in suppressing it.

To this prompt and decisive action, I firmly believe we owe it under God's providence that we are able to meet here this day. One moment's hesitation, one single reverse might have lit the torch which would have blazed in rebellion from one end of the island to the other; and who can say how many of us would have lived to see it extinguished?

It is my duty to point out to you that, satisfactory as it is to know that the rebellion in the Eastern districts has been crushed out, the entire colony has long been, still is, on the brink of a volcano which may at any moment burst into fury.

There is scarcely a district or a parish in the island where disloyalty, sedition, and murderous intentions are not widely disseminated, and, in many instances, openly expressed. The misapprehensions and misrepresentations of pseudo philanthropists in England in this country, the inflammatory harangues or seditious writings of political demagogues, of evil-minded men of higher position and of better education, and of worthless persons without either character or property to lose, the personal, scurrilous, vindictive, and disloyal writings of a licentious and unscrupulous Press, and misdirected efforts and misguided counsel of certain ministers of religion, sadly so miscalled, if the Saviour's example and teaching is to be the standard, have led to their natural, their necessary, their inevitable result (amongst an ignorant, excitable, and uncivilized population) rebellion, arson, murder.

These are hard and harsh words, gentlemen, but they are true; and this is no time to indulge in selected sentences or polished phraseology.

A mighty danger threatens the land, and, in order to concert measures to avert it, and prevent, so far as human wisdom can, any future recurrence of a similar state of things, we must examine boldly, deeply, and unflinchingly into the causes which have led to this danger. I know of no general grievance under which the negroes of this colony labour. Individual cases of hardship or injustice must arise in every community; but, as a whole, the peasantry of Jamaica have nothing to complain of. They are less taxed, can live more easily and cheaply, and are less under an obligation to work for subsistence than any peasantry in the world. The same laws as to the imposition of taxes, the administration of justice, and the enjoyment of political rights, apply to them and to the white and coloured inhabitants alike. They ought to be better off, more comfortable, and more independent than the labourers of any other country. If it is not so it is due to their own indolence, improvidence, and vice, acted upon by the absence of good example and of civilizing influences in many districts, and by the evil teaching and evil agencies to which I have already referred, in all.

It is a remarkable fact, too, that many of the principal rebels in the late outbreak have been persons well off, and well to do in the world, possessing lands, cottages, furniture, horses, mules, or other property, and with an education above the average of the peasantry.

It is necessary to bring these facts before you in order to convince you how widely spread and how deeply rooted the spirit of disaffection is; how daring and determined the intention has been, and still is, to make Jamaica a second Hayti, and how imperative it is upon you, gentlemen, to take such measures as, under God's blessing, may avert such a calamity. Those measures may be summed up in a few words: Create a strong Government, and then, under a firm hand to guide and direct, much may be accomplished.

In order to obtain a strong Government there is but one course open to you, that of abolishing the existing form of Constitution, compensating the officers whose offices are abolished, and establishing one better adapted to the present state and requirements of the Colony—one in which union, co-operation, consistency, and promptness of action may, as far as practicable, be secured. I invite you, then, gentlemen, to make a great and generous sacrifice for the sake of your country, and in immolating on the altar of patriotism the two Branches of the Legislature, of which you yourselves are the constituent parts, to hand down to posterity a noble example of self-denial and heroism.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It is impossible under existing circumstances to form any reliable estimate of either

revenue or expenditure. The returns and estimates, which were being prepared, and would have been laid before you under ordinary circumstances, are now useless. I can only, therefore, invite you to place a generous confidence in the Executive, by making a general provision for the ordinary and extraordinary expenditure, and leaving it to the Governor in Executive Committee to make the best and most prudent arrangements which circumstances admit of. We have already been under the necessity of assuming a large pecuniary responsibility in the steps taken to ensure the security of the Colony, and protect life and property. It will be our duty and our endeavour to administer whatever funds you may place at our disposal faithfully, and as economically as practicable.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

Looking upon the one great question to be submitted to you, as of paramount importance, and as, indeed, involving in itself, if adopted, the means of securing all other necessary measures, it is not the intention of the Government to bring before you during the present session any but a very few Bills of the most pressing and urgent kind.

Should you, after careful consideration, decide upon changing the Constitution of the Legislature, there is no reason why the new Legislature, to be called into existence in its place, should not be organised and at work within a few months from the present date. Within that period, too, I trust, that the immediate security of the Colony may be so far provided for, and confidence so far restored, that there would no longer be any impediment to the careful preparation and mature consideration of many most necessary and important laws.

Commending to your best attention the present critical state of Jamaica, I pray you cordially to unite in endeavouring to devise the most appropriate and effectual means of meeting the existing emergency, and preventing any similar recurrence.

May the Almighty so direct, guide, and bless your labours that they may tend to the establishment of lasting security for life and property, and largely promote the general welfare and prosperity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Circular addressed to Members of the Legislature.

Sir, *King's House, October* 27, 1865.

AS the rebellion in St. Thomas in the East has created an emergency, and developed circumstances requiring the most prompt and grave consideration, I have to inform you that the Government will submit to the Legislature, immediately upon its meeting, on the 7th proximo, measures of the greatest importance to the future interest and welfare of the Colony.

I would, therefore, express a hope that, if possible, you will attend punctually at the opening of the Session.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 32.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 285.) (Answered No. 358, December 1, 1865, page 250.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the reply of the Legislative Council to my opening Address of yesterday.

I also enclose a copy of my rejoinder.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Address of the Legislative Council to Governor Eyre.

Jamaica, ss.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General, and Governor-in-Chief of this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending, in America; Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the Legislative Council of Jamaica.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, the Legislative Council of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for the Speech with which you have opened the present Session, one of the most important interest to the Colony, after the sad and solemn events to which your Excellency alludes.

While joining your Excellency in acknowledging the zealous and able services of his Excellency the General Commanding, the Senior Naval Officer, and of the military and naval forces, as well as of the Volunteers, we desire also to record our grateful thanks to your Excellency for the energy, firmness, and wisdom with which you have carried the Island through this momentous crisis.

We are well aware that the slightest hesitation on your part would have been fraught with the most imminent danger to the lives of the loyal inhabitants throughout the Island; and we are well assured that all our loyal fellow-colonists unite in the expression of gratitude which it is now our privilege to convey to you.

We have pleasure in bearing testimony, with your Excellency, to the fidelity and loyalty of the Maroons, and their prompt and useful services under Colonel Fyfe.

We entirely concur in the painful statement your Excellency has made, that there is scarcely a district throughout the Island where disloyalty, sedition, and murderous intentions are not widely disseminated and openly expressed. We agree with your Excellency as to the causes which have created the dangers that now threaten the country, and will heartily co-operate with you in endeavouring to remedy this grievous state of affairs.

Your Excellency may confidently rely upon our giving our best consideration to any measure tending to establish that strong and efficient government so necessary for the well-being of this community, and we trust that the Almighty may guide our deliberations, and enable us, in co-operation with your Excellency, and the other branch of the Legislature, to secure the future safety, peace, and prosperity of the Colony.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 8th day of November, 1865.

(Signed) SAML. RENNALLS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council of Jamaica.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Rejoinder of Governor Eyre.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

I THANK you sincerely for the cordiality and good feeling with which you have responded to my opening Address, and I feel deeply grateful for the very gratifying record you have conveyed to me of your approval of my endeavours to do my duty in a sudden and great emergency.

No. 33.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received November* 29.)

(No. 286.) (Answered No. 358, December 1, 1865, page 250.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 9, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the reply of the House of Assembly to my opening Address.

The cordiality and good feeling which characterise the reply lead me to hope that some really useful legislation will be effected.

I enclose a copy also of my rejoinder.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Address of the House of Assembly to Governor Eyre.

Jamaica, ss.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of this our Island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America, Governor and Commander-in-chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

WE, Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the session.

We assure your Excellency that the advice and co-operation which you seek of the Legislature in a crisis consummated by rebellion, and which threatens, by a most diabolical conspiracy, the lives of the white and coloured inhabitants of the colony, will not, on the part of this Assembly, be withheld.

We most readily acknowledge that, while the thanks of the island are due to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, for the readiness and promptitude with which he met the occurrences of the outbreak, and no less to all the other civil, naval, and military authorities engaged in its suppression, as well as to the Maroons, for their fidelity and loyalty, the gratitude of the island is chiefly due to the unexampled skill, energy, and self-devotion which characterized all your Excelleney's measures.

We desire to express our entire concurrence in your Excellency's statement, that to the misapprehensions and misrepresentations of pseudo-philanthropists in England and in this country, to the inflammatory harangues and seditious meetings of political demagogues, to the personal, scurrilous, vindictive, and disloyal writings of a licentious and unscrupulous press, and to the misdirected efforts and misguided counsel of certain miscalled ministers of religion, is to be attributed the present disorganisation of the Colony, resulting in rebellion, arson, and murder.

We cordially agree with your Excellency, that this great wickedness cannot be attributed to any just grievances under which it can be said that the peasantry suffer. On the contrary, we entirely coincide with your Excellency in the opinion that they have advantages which the peasantry of no other country enjoy, and that it is owing to the causes to which your Excellency alludes that they have failed to reap the benefits of their position.

Deeply impressed with the full conviction that nothing but the existence of a strong Government can prevent this island from lapsing into the condition of a second Hayti, we shall cheerfully take into consideration any measures recommended by your Excellency.

We feel ourselves bound, in this emergency, to aid, so far as the resources of the country will admit, the Government in all steps which may be necessary for ensuring the security of the Colony, and the protection of life and property.

We fervently join your Excellency in the prayer that Almighty God may so bless our united labours that they may tend to the establishment of lasting security for life and property, and largely promote the general welfare and prosperity of the colony.

Passed the Assembly this 8th day of November, 1865.

(Signed) CHARLES H. JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

Rejoinder of Governor Eyre.

Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I THANK you very sincerely for your most cordial reply to my opening Address.

The generous and patriotic spirit in which you have received my suggestions convinces me that I was not mistaken in my estimate of the feelings which animate you in your desire to promote the public safety and welfare.

It is deeply gratifying to me to receive the welcome expression of your good opinion and confidence, and to learn that my conduct in a great and trying emergency has met with your hearty approval.

No. 34.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 289.) (Answered No. 14, January 1, 1866, page 259)

Sir, *King's House, November 15, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to report that Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, K.C.B., arrived in the "Duncan" at Port Royal on the 10th instant, bringing with him seven Companies of Her Majesty's 17th Regiment, and notifying that three other Companies would shortly follow in Her Majesty's ship "Sphynx," the troops having been sent in answer to the requisition made by the Executive Committee in the Governor's name by telegram, as stated in my despatch No. 278* of the 8th instant.

2. I append a copy of a correspondence with Sir James Hope, and of a letter which I addressed to General Doyle, administering the Government of Nova Scotia. I also append copies of Minutes which have passed between myself and the Executive Committee.

3. As the troops have been brought down in men-of-war, and will be returned to Nova Scotia in the same way, as little expense will have been occasioned to Great Britain as possible under the circumstances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *"Duncan," at Jamaica, November 10, 1865.*

I HAVE to acquaint you that in consequence of a telegram, a copy of which is forwarded herewith, I have arrived here with seven Companies of the 2nd Battalion of the 17th Regiment, and that the "Sphinx" will follow with the remaining three Companies shortly.

I have acquainted Major-General Doyle, for the information of Sir John Michel, the Commander of the Forces in North America, that this regiment, if not required here, shall be returned to Halifax with the least possible delay, and as your Excellency will not now require their services, I presume I may at once make my arrangements accordingly, which the late season of the year, as well as the overcrowded state of this ship, renders most desirable.

A copy of the letter to Major-General Doyle has been forwarded to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and will of course be recommended to Her Majesty's Government [*sic*].

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Consul Archibald to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Telegraphic.) *New York, October 23, 1865.*

GOVERNOR of Jamaica reports, through Consul-General Bunch, a rebellion of negroes, eastern district of island, and desires me to telegraph you and the Governor of Nova Scotia requesting immediate reinforcements, military and naval, for Port Royal, Jamaica.

Mr. Bunch's letter 18th instant.

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

Consul Archibald to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

(Telegraphic.) *New York, October 23, 1865.*

THE steamer "Cura Bell," from Kingston, arrived at Santiago de Cuba (18th) with letter from Governor to British Vice-Consul desiring him to telegraph Mr. Bunch and myself as already reported by me to you.

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* Page 160.

Inclosure 4 in No. 34.

Governor Eyre to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir, *Flamstead, November* 10, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date, informing me that in consequence of a telegram received from this Government you have arrived here with seven companies of the 2nd battalion of the 17th Regiment, and that the "Sphynx" will follow with the remaining three companies shortly.

The telegram in question was sent in my name by the Executive Committee of the Colony, who are the constitutional advisers of the Governor, by an opportunity which offered during my absence at the seat of the disturbances. I of course could not be consulted, nor had I any knowledge of what had been done until some time afterwards. Indeed, the communication first made to me led me to infer that naval assistance had only been telegraphed for. When I became aware of the exact nature of the telegram, a copy was sent to Commodore Sir Leopold Mc Clintock, who dispatched Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia" to Cuba with a counter-telegram, but unfortunately too late to prevent the troops being sent from Nova Scotia.

I am very thankful to say that the rebellion in the eastern parishes is effectually subdued and punished, and although much disaffection exists in most of the other parishes, I consider that so far as it is possible to judge we have now a sufficient military force within the Colony to protect it from any further serious outbreak, or to put it down should it take place; consequently the troops arrived from Halifax are not now required, though I beg to be permitted in my own name and in that of the Colony to thank most gratefully your Excellency and the authorities in Nova Scotia for the very prompt manner in which such a powerful force has been so generously dispatched to our assistance, and which had the rebellion not been suddenly crushed in the district where it originated would certainly have been most urgently needed.

I feel fully convinced that any delay or any reverse during the first few days would have led to the rebellion becoming universal throughout the whole island.

We are still in a very precarious position as regards the disposition and possible conduct of the negroes, and though I think the troops brought from North America may be safely dispensed with, I consider that for some time to come the services of two men-of-war ought to be available for the purpose of frequently visiting every part in the island, and watching the course of events.

I should be very much obliged, therefore, if your Excellency could make such arrangements as would admit of this duty being carried out.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 34.

Governor Eyre to Major-General Doyle.

Sir, *King's House, November* 14, 1865.

THE arrival of Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope, with seven companies of Her Majesty's 17th Regiment in the "Duncan," has made me acquainted with the ready and generous manner in which your Excellency detached a powerful force from your own Government to aid in quelling a rebellion in Jamaica, which had been announced to you by telegram with an application for military reinforcements.

Permit me in my own name and in that of the Colony to thank your Excellency gratefully for this most prompt assistance.

I am happy to say that the rebellion is effectually crushed in the parishes where it broke out, but as a spirit of sedition and disaffection largely prevails in the other districts of the island, the greatest vigilance and precaution will be necessary for a long time to come, in order to prevent similar outbreaks taking place in those districts.

The arrival of reinforcements from Nassau and Barbadoes prior to the coming of the 17th Regiment afforded me the means of forming military posts at many important points, and this, together with a large naval force now placed at my disposal by Sir J. Hope, will, I think, enable me to keep down any rising which might be contemplated.

I do not, therefore, feel justified in detaining the valuable force so kindly sent by your Excellency, especially as I am given to understand that unless a very pressing

necessity exists for its detention here its immediate return to the North American command is considered desirable.

It is right to state that in coming to this decision I am acting in opposition to the wishes and opinions of my constituted advisers, and I am told of nearly all the members of both branches of the Legislature also, most of whom are very anxious that the 17th Regiment should be retained in Jamaica.

I sincerely trust that in kindly endeavouring to aid another Colony in her hour of difficulty and distress, that under your own Government will not have sustained any injury or inconvenience from the temporary absence of so considerable a force as that detached to our assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 34.

Minute for his Excellency the Governor.

UNDERSTANDING that the 17th Regiment is not to be landed, the Executive Committee would venture to suggest a reconsideration of this determination, presuming it has been arrived at, with the acquiescence of his Excellency the Governor.

It is well known that a bad feeling still prevails in various parts of the island, and all danger is not considered over, particularly in the town of Kingston, and these circumstances, we think, warrant his Excellency in keeping here for some time, at least, as large a body of trained troops as possible whose services, in case of need, would be far more effectual than those of volunteers and special constables, whilst the expense would be scarcely greater than that now being incurred for the latter, including the cost of a supply of tropical clothing.

It should also be borne in mind that we are just now attempting the abolition of the popular branch of the Legislature, and that Christmas is coming, the period generally believed to have been fixed for a rising of the negroes throughout the Colony.

We are quite satisfied that all loyal inhabitants of the Colony would gladly sanction any extra expense that would be incurred from the feeling of security that would be afforded by the presence of another white regiment, whilst the season of the year is favourable in a sanitary point of view for their stay.

Strongly impressed with the belief that this would be a desirable step, we urge it as forcibly as we can upon your Excellency, adding that every member of the Legislature we have seen coincides with us in the opinion we have expressed.

And, in conclusion, we would express our opinion that the present military protection is quite inadequate, and that such will be found to be the case for some time to come, if the seeds of the intended general rebellion are to be rooted out.

(Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.
ROBERT HAMILTON.
WM. HOSACK.

Kingston, November 11, 1865.

Inclosure 7 in No. 34.

Minute for the Executive Committee.

THE Governor has duly received the Minute of the Executive Committee, dated this day, urging reasons why the 17th Regiment recently arrived from Nova Scotia should be detained in this Colony for some time to come.

In reply the Governor has to convey to the Executive Committee the following information:—

1st. The 17th Regiment was only sent away from North America in the supposition that the rebellion was being continued, and that reinforcements were immediately and urgently required in Jamaica. It was sent also on the distinct understanding that if that pressure no longer existed, it was immediately to be sent back.

Circumstances connected with the present state of the North American Colonies render it very undesirable, if not unsafe, to weaken the military force there.

2nd. The season of the year is already late for sending troops to the northward, and every day's delay, if they are to be sent at all, is of consequence.

3rd. The Governor has this day arranged with the Admiral that five men-of-war shall be posted at different ports around the coast ready to move anywhere, or to land men if necessary.

That the Admiral's own ship the "Duncan" will be lying off Kingston until after Christmas; and that other men-of-war will be ready at Port Royal for any service that may be requisite.

The Executive Committee will see in these arrangements that ample provision is made for the protection of Jamaica, so far as any present appearances or indications make necessary.

Should occasion require it, at least 500 or 600 marines and sailors could in a few hours be moved to any one point to aid the civil and military authorities.

Lastly. The Governor is bound to have regard to the requirements of the Queen's service generally in determining the arrangements to be made, and he does not feel justified, where so much has been done to protect Jamaica, in weakening the resources of another command at a time when there are grounds for fearing that command may itself become the theatre of disturbances.

The decision as to the return of the 17th Regiment has been fully considered and discussed at a meeting of the Governor, the Admiral, and the General this morning.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Flamstead, November 11, 1865.

No. 35.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 290.) (Answered No. 14, January 1, 1866, page 259.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 15, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that I consider it will be essential for the safety and protection of this island that from 500 to 600 additional troops above the ordinary complement usually kept here should be stationed in Jamaica for some time to come.

The readiest and least expensive way of meeting this requirement, if acquiesced in by Her Majesty's Government, would be:—

1st. To recall from Trinidad the three Companies of the 2nd battalion 6th Regiment now stationed there, replacing them by a corresponding detachment from the 3rd Buffs. This would concentrate in Jamaica the entire 2nd battalion of the 6th Royal Regiment.

2nd. To bring up from British Guiana the Company of the 2nd West India Regiment now there, and the invalids belonging to the same regiment now at Barbados. This would concentrate the whole of the 2nd West India Regiment in this command.

3rd. To retain in this command the entire 1st West India Regiment now within it.

There would then be within the Jamaica command one battalion of European troops and two black regiments.

From the latter it would be requisite to supply Nassau and British Honduras.

At British Honduras there are three companies; but as soon as the contemplated gun-boat for the defence of the Hondo is ready these might safely be reduced to two.

At Nassau, probably, three companies would be sufficient for the present, to be increased to four by the additional company now at Belize, but which will be relieved when the steamer for the Hondo is ready.

This arrangement would leave the additional troops required for Jamaica.

As Admiral Sir J. Hope states that all the changes can be effected by Her Majesty's ships under his command, comparatively little expense will be incurred in carrying out the plan suggested.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE,

No. 36.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 291.)

Sir, *King's House, November 20, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to report that during the progress of the rebellion it became evident that several persons of better position and education had been engaged in misleading the negro population by inflammatory speeches or writings, telling them that they were wronged and oppressed, and inciting them to seek redress.

That these evil influences had a large share in causing the immediate outbreak in St. Thomas-in-the-East as well as in leading to the brutal massacre of particular individuals who had been pointed out by name as the parties by whom the wrongs and oppression were in a great measure wrought, there could be no shadow of a doubt.

Chief amongst the parties concerned in this most flagitious and but too successful attempt to stimulate the negroes to rebellion were George William Gordon, a coloured member of the House of Assembly, a Dr. Bruce, a Scotch practitioner in Vere, and coroner of the parish, and a Mr. Sydney Levien, a Jew, the proprietor and editor of the "County Union" newspaper, residing at Montego Bay.

It became necessary to take these men into custody and seize their papers.

George William Gordon was first captured, and the examination of his papers afforded such strong proof that the other two were in league with him that I directed them to be made prisoners of also. The interval which had elapsed after Mr. Gordon's capture had, however, unfortunately afforded time to Dr. Bruce and Mr. Levien to make away with any papers likely to be dangerous to their safety, and but few writings were found of any importance amongst their papers.

Mr. Gordon, as already reported to you, was taken to Morant Bay, tried by court-martial, and hung upon most conclusive testimony that the Morant Bay massacre owed its origin to his seditious teachings.

Dr. Bruce and Mr. Levien were also taken to Morant Bay, but were not tried by court-martial, the evidence available not being considered sufficient.

It was thought better, therefore, to detain them in custody, and institute civil proceedings against them when martial law should be terminated.

This course the Attorney-General has been instructed to take. There are several other prisoners of less position and note, but whose sedition and inflammatory teachings have had a most mischievous effect amongst the negroes, who were also captured during martial law, and are still detained in custody to be dealt with by the Attorney-General.

I inclose an extract from a letter from Sydney Levien to Dr. Bruce dated 11th of September, 1865, in which he states that he was writing editorial articles in his newspaper "to shield you (Dr. Bruce) and them (the people of Vere) from the charge of anarchy and tumult that in a short time must follow these powerful demonstrations."

It is evident from this letter that both Mr. Levien and Dr. Bruce were fully aware of the effect which the "strong demonstrations" they were making would have on the negro mind, and that they wilfully and designedly pursued them to the issue they expected, "anarchy and tumult," whilst Mr. Levien avows that he was engaged as editor of the "County Union" in writing leading articles to screen Dr. Bruce and others from the charge of having led to the disorders which it was anticipated would take place.

There was abundance of evidence to show that both Dr. Bruce and Mr. Levien were closely associated with George William Gordon in all these proceedings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Extract from the "Jamaica Tribune and Daily Advertiser" of September 7, 1865.

WE learn from the correspondents of fine doings in the parish of Vere on the 4th instant. It appears that Mr. G. W. Gordon called a meeting to take place on Saturday, but on account of the weather it was postponed till the day mentioned, when it took place at the Alley. We are informed that the leading spirits were Mr. G. W. Gordon and Dr. Bruce, and that the most seditious sentiments were uttered, and everything possible done to inflame the minds of the people. They were told (so we hear) that the "Queen's advice" was all bosh, a forgery got up by "that bad man, the Governor," to injure the

people; and they were advised to follow the example of the people of Hayti; that is, we suppose, get up a revolution. The source whence our information comes is a reliable one; and furthermore, we know enough of Mr. G. W. Gordon to believe him quite capable of giving utterance to seditious sentiments, and of doing his best to arouse the worst feelings of the peasantry by misrepresentation.

But what can such unprincipled vipers mean by endeavouring to create discontent among our labourers, just at the very time, too, that preparations are being made to begin crop? A most malevolent—a truly devilish feeling must influence them to pursue such a course. Are we, however, to stand idle and see the torch lighted to destroy us? Is there no means of punishing such despicable characters, who, bankrupt alike in name, reputation, and means, desire to pull all down to their own level, and sacrifice not to use the garb of religion to effect their base designs? Pity there are no cart's tail and cat-o'-nine-tails in existence; pity tar and feathers are not come-at-able in Vere. We expect further information and may say more then.

Vere.—A gentleman writing from Vere says:—"Mr. Gordon uttered sentiments at the late meeting not only detrimental to the planting interest, but highly seditious. He said, addressing the negroes:—'Do as the Haytiens have done. They call you bad now, but they will call you worse then.' Such language is unmistakeable; and all we can say is, to advise the planters of Vere, or any other parish, to treat this demagogue as he deserves whenever he makes his appearance among them.

"Let them do all they can to put the true character of the man before the people; and in order to do this, we may inform our planting friends that their canting, hypocritical opponent took the coffee crop off two or three estates in St. Andrew's years ago, and has never to this day paid the labourers! Faugh! He care for the people!"

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Sidney Levien to Dr. Bruce, dated September 11, 1865.

I COULD scarce command vital thought enough yesterday to do justice to your meeting, and against the wish of Wn. I wrote the feeble editorial that appears to second the noble exertions of the Vere people. What I desire is to shield you and them from the charge of anarchy and tumult that in a short time must follow these powerful demonstrations. How I succeeded you must judge yourself.

No. 37.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 14.)

(No. 292.)

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, November* 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit an extract from a local newspaper* giving an account of the visit of between 200 and 300 Maroons to Kingston, where they were received publicly with every attention and feasted. On the following day they were received in a similar manner at Spanish Town.

The fidelity of the Maroons during the late rebellion had an important influence in preventing its spread and in shortening its duration. The negroes are dreadfully afraid of a race who, being better bushmen than themselves, can track them out and follow them through the wildest recesses of the mountain fastnesses.

It is of course the policy of the Government to confirm and continue the loyalty of the Maroons by making it their interest to remain faithful, and with this view a Bill is about to be introduced into the Legislature to enable the Government to embody and employ them in a military capacity.

In the meantime, it has been thought desirable that a large body of the Maroons from the eastern district of the Colony should march round the entire island, accompanied by their chief, Colonel Fyfe, for the double purpose of re-establishing friendly relations with the Maroons of Accompong in the western end of the island, with whom they have had no intercourse for many years, and in order to show the negroes throughout the Colony that the Government has the power of bringing upon them at any moment a large body of well-armed bushmen, from whose skilful and unwearying tracking they could have no chance of escape.

* Not printed.

I feel assured that this movement will have a good moral effect upon the disaffected peasantry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 38.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 293.)
Sir, *King's House, November 20, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the three remaining companies of Her Majesty's 17th Regiment arrived from Halifax in Her Majesty's ship "Sphynx" on the instant.

As these troops are not now required, they will be immediately sent back in Her Majesty's ship "Galatea," so as to incur as little expense as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 39.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 294.)
Sir, *King's House, November 23, 1865.*

I HAVE much pleasure in transmitting the accompanying copies of a correspondence with General O'Connor relative to the services of certain officers connected with the Colonial service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Head-Quarters, November 20, 1865.*

I DO myself the honour to transmit extracts from a despatch received by me from Brigadier-General A. A. Nelson, commanding field force, and I have no doubt but that the manner in which the several officers are mentioned will be received by your Excellency with the same pleasure as I myself have derived.

I have further to acquaint your Excellency that the duties of the Deputy Adjutant-General to the forces will from this date be resumed by Colonel Nelson.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

(Extract.) *November 20, 1865.*

THE Maroons, under the skilful leading of Colonel the Honourable A. G. Fyfe, contributed greatly towards the suppression of the rebellion. The peculiar nature of this force permitted of the mountains being searched, and with the Maroons rests the honour and credit of capturing the principal ringleader of the rebellion—Paul Bogle.

Colonel Lewis, St. Catherine's Militia, and Captain the Honourable P. Espeut, Kingston Militia, took the field at the same time as myself; the former remained until domestic affliction induced me to grant him leave of absence, and the latter until his duties as a member of the Legislature caused me to dispense with his services. I must add Captain Espeut reluctantly coincided in my view of the expediency of his attending to his civil duties.

These officers rendered very able and zealous services, and the Colony owes them a deep debt of gratitude for having sacrificed their home avocations in order to take part in active operations with a field force.

His Excellency the Governor and Captain-General, at great personal inconvenience, was pleased to place at my disposal his Aide-de-camp and Military Secretary, Colonel Hunt, being an officer of the regular forces. I derived the greatest benefit therefrom, and by his untiring energy and zeal Colonel Hunt deserves infinite praise at my hands, and I much regretted losing his services on the departure of his Excellency the Governor from the scene of operations.

Provost Marshal Ramsay was unwearied in the performance of his duties, and which were of a harassing and arduous description, and I trust they will be taken into consideration by the Colonial Government.

I crave permission to submit the names of the following officers to your most favourable notice:—

Colonel Hunt, Aide-de-Camp, Military Secretary to his Excellency the Governor; Colonel the Honourable A. G. Fyfe, commanding the Maroons; Colonel Lewis, St. Catherine's Militia; Captain the Honourable P. Espeut, Kingston Militia.

Inclosure 3 in No. 39.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, transmitting extracts from a despatch from Brigadier-General Nelson relative to the manner in which the several officers named therein had discharged their duties.

It affords me much pleasure to learn that officers connected with the Colonial service are so favourably thought of by an officer of Brigadier Nelson's judgment and experience, and I shall have great satisfaction in transmitting the Brigadier's report to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I should be glad also to make public your despatch and its inclosure in the Colony, if you see no objection to my doing so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 39.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 21, 1865.

IN reply to the last paragraph of your letter of this day's date, I have the honour to request your Excellency will act as you deem expedient in making known to the public the contents of my letter and inclosure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 40.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 295.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the private letter which I received from the late Baron Von Kettelhodt, together with his official communication asking that troops might be sent to Morant Bay.

The latter document was transmitted in my despatch No. 251* of the 20th ultimo, and this private note ought to have accompanied it, but had got mislaid at the time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 1.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Baron von Ketelhodt to Governor Eyre.

(Private.)

My dear Sir, *Morant Bay, October* 10, 1865.

I AM sorry to say that Mr. G. W. Gordon's inflammatory addresses have borne fruit earlier than I at least anticipated.

On my arrival here a few hours ago I found the respectable people of the town in a great state of alarm and excitement in consequence of demonstrations of not only disaffection, but of open violence by a body of men who came to the Court-house on Saturday armed with bludgeons, and who successfully rescued him [*sic*].

The circumstances that have since happened are detailed in an official despatch to your Excellency's Secretary.

The ringleader in this affair is a man of the name of Paul Bogle, who generally acts with Mr. G. W. Gordon.

I think it of the highest importance that this outbreak should be stopped in its bud by a sufficient military force being at once detached in aid of the police and volunteeers.

I arrived here with an attack of fever, and I fear that some difficulty will be experienced in deciphering my exceedingly hurried despatch.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) M. A. von KETELHODT.

No. 41.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 297.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit authenticated copies of eight Acts passed during the Session, together with the Island Secretary's summary thereof, and of the Attorney-General's opinion thereon.

2. All these Acts are passed for purposes connected with the rebellion, and sufficiently explain themselves.

3. No. 3 is limited in duration to the 31st December, 1868.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

(No. 4,534.) 29 Vict., Cap. I.

An Act to indemnify the Governor, and all other Officers and Persons concerned in suppressing the late Rebellion in this Island.

Preamble. WHEREAS, being seduced by the insidious counsel of wickedly designing persons, many of the Queen's subjects in this island conspired by force to overthrow the Constitution and Government here established by law; and in furtherance of such their purpose, did, with force, and in confederated multitude, commit on the eleventh day of October, in this present year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and on divers other days then following, in the parish of Saint Thomas-in-the-East, many burglaries, robberies, arsons, murders, and other felonies, with treasonous purpose, in renunciation of their natural allegiance, and to the intent of the general massacre of all loyal and well-disposed subjects of the Queen here dwelling: And whereas upon being informed of such the aforesaid atrocities, his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, the Governor of this Island, with the advice of a Council of war, and in order to prevent the extension of the said rebellious outbreak, did proclaim that martial law should obtain and prevail throughout the county of Surry, with the exception only of the city and parish of Kingston: And whereas, under God's providence, the military and naval forces of the Queen, with the loyal co-operation of others, her Majesty's faithful subjects in this island, have arrested the spread of this rebellion, and saved the lives of law-abiding citizens from imminent general sacrifice; and whereas military, naval, or civil authorities, necessarily employed in the prompt suppression of the atrocities aforesaid, may, according to the law of ordinary

peace, be responsible in person or purse for acts done in good faith, for the purpose of restoring public peace, and quelling the rebellion aforesaid: And whereas it is expedient that all persons whosoever, in good faith, and of loyal resolve, have acted for the crushing of this rebellious outbreak, should be indemnified and kept harmless for such their acts of loyalty. Be it therefore, and it is hereby enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island:—

Personal actions, indictments, prosecutions, &c. against civil or other officers, and persons acting under orders, from promulgation of martial law, made void, and such persons indemnified.

First.—That all personal actions and suits, indictments, informations, attachments, prosecutions, and proceedings, present or future whatsoever, against such authorities or officers, civil, military, or naval, or other persons acting as last aforesaid, for or by reason of any matter or thing commanded, ordered, directed, or done since the promulgation and publication of the proclamation of martial law aforesaid, whether done in any district in which martial law was proclaimed, or in any district in which martial law was not proclaimed, in furtherance of martial law; that is to say, on, from and after the thirteenth day of October last past, and during the continuance of such martial law, in order to suppress the said insurrection and rebellion, and for the preservation of the public peace throughout the island, shall be discharged and made void; and that every person by whom such act, matter, or thing shall have been advised, commanded, ordered, directed, or done for the purposes aforesaid, on, from, and since the said thirteenth day of October, and during the existence of such martial law, shall be freed, acquitted, discharged, and indemnified, as well against the Queen's most gracious Majesty, her heirs and successors, as against all and every persons or person whomsoever.

The Governor and all other persons also indemnified for all acts done in order to put an end to said rebellion, which acts are declared lawful.

Second.—And it is hereby also enacted, That his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, and all officers and other persons who have acted under his authority, or have acted *bonâ fide* for the purposes and during the time aforesaid, whether such acts were done in any district in which martial law was proclaimed, or in any district in which martial law was not proclaimed, are hereby indemnified in respect of all acts, matters, and things done in order to put an end to the said rebellion; and all such acts so done are hereby made and declared to be lawful, and are confirmed.

To remove doubts as to legality of acts done, Governor to declare them done by authority, &c.

Third.—In order to prevent any doubt which might arise, whether any act alleged to have been done under the authority of the Governor, or to have been done *bonâ fide* in order to suppress and put an end to the said rebellion, was so done, it shall be lawful for the Governor for the time being to declare such acts to have been done under such authority, or *bonâ fide* for the purposes aforesaid; and such declaration, by any writing under the hand of the Governor for the time being shall, in all cases, be conclusive evidence that such acts were so done respectively.

Passed the Assembly, this 9th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

(No. 4,535.) 29 Vict., Cap. II.

An Act to enable the Governor to detain Persons arrested during the prevalence of Martial Law.

Persons apprehended during martial law may be detained thereafter if case not adjudicated.

BE it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted, That, notwithstanding the determination of martial law, after the recent or any future declaration thereof, it shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, to order, by any writing under his hand, for such time as shall be in such order expressed, the detention of any person who may have been apprehended during the prevalence of martial law, and whose case shall not be adjudicated during that period.

Passed the Assembly, this 9th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 41.

No. 4,536.) 29 Vict., Cap. III.

An Act to enable the Governor of this Island to declare Martial Law over the whole or any portions of the Island, by and with the advice of the Privy Council.

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the ninety-sixth section of the Act of the ninth Victoria, chapter thirty-five, martial law cannot be declared except at a meeting of the Council of War, composed of twenty-one members: And whereas it is at times difficult to collect such a Council for the purpose of immediately declaring martial law, which may be rendered necessary by urgent circumstances: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island as follows:—

Power to proclaim martial law.

First. On the passing of this Act the Governor shall have power, by and with the advice of the Privy Council, from time to time to declare the whole or any portion of this island under martial law.

Part of Act repugnant to this repealed.

Second. So much of the recited Act as is repugnant to or inconsistent with this enactment is hereby repealed.

Duration of Act.

Third. That this Act shall be and continue in force from the date of its passing until the thirty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and no longer.

Passed the Assembly, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 10th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 41.

(No. 4,537.) 29 Vict., Cap. IV.

An Act to provide for the Expenses attending the Extinguishing of the Rebellion.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the putting down of the recent rebellion and the existence of martial law in the county of Surry have caused serious expenses to be incurred, which cannot at present be correctly estimated: And whereas the annual revenue of the Colony, seriously affected by these circumstances, is wholly inadequate to bear any portion thereof: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Governor to negotiate a loan of 50,000*l.*

First. The Governor, with the advice of the Executive Committee, shall have power to negotiate a loan not exceeding fifty thousand pounds, for the purposes named, and shall have full power and authority to make such terms as they may deem fit for the obtaining and repaying, and as to the issuing or renewing of debentures for the said loan of fifty thousand pounds, or any portion thereof.

Interest and sinking fund annual charge on the estimates.

Second. The interest and sinking fund upon such sum or sums borrowed shall be an annual charge upon the estimates.

Annual statements to be laid before the Legislature.

Third. Statements of all particulars with reference to the expenditure of such loan

shall be placed before the Legislature from time to time during the present session, as the accounts may be approved and audited.

Passed the Assembly, this 15th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 17th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 41.

(No. 4,538.) 29 VICT., CAP. V.

An Act to provide for the forfeiture of the Real and Personal Estates of Persons guilty of Treason or Felony in the late Rebellion.

WHEREAS by the law relating to forfeitures for attainder of treason or felony, no forfeiture accrues to the Crown by reason of such judgment of a court-martial in time of the prevalence of martial law; And whereas all such judgments, given by such courts-martial in the districts wherein martial law obtained in the months of October and November of this present year of grace, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, have been confirmed and approved by the Legislature of this Island, and it is expedient, both for the prevention of rebellion in future, for contribution towards defraying the extra-ordinary public expenses occasioned by the late rebellion in various parts of this Island, towards compensating innocent sufferers for the loss and destruction of their natural protectors and supporters, and of their property, and for the becoming recognition of distinguished services rendered by the naval and military forces (so far as the same may be approved by Her Majesty the Queen), that all the forfeitable property, interest, and estate, real and personal, of persons so adjudged guilty of treason or felony as aforesaid, should be placed at the disposal of the Crown: Be it and it is hereby enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and by the authority of the same. Preamble.

First.—That all the judgments so given as aforesaid shall have the same effect as attaints of treason, or felony respectively, in Courts of Record. Judgments given to have same effect as attaints of treason, &c.

Second.—That a certificate of any such judgment under the respective hands and seals of the President of the court-martial at which any such judgment shall have been given, and of Major-General Luke Smythe O'Connor, C.B., now and during the said rebellion commanding the forces, shall be deemed conclusive, but not the exclusive evidence of such judgment. Certificate of judgment conclusive, but not exclusive evidence of judgment.

Passed the Assembly, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 17th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 41.

(No. 4,539.) 29 VICT., CAP. VI.

An Act to revive the Act of the Twenty-third Victoria, chapter three, for Regulating the issuing of, and the proceedings under, a Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer, for the Trial of certain Offences committed in the County of Cornwall, and to extend its provisions to Offences committed in the Island generally; and for other purposes.

BE it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

23 Vic. cap. 3, for trial of certain offences in Cornwall, extended to all offences committed within the last twelve months, or hereafter to be committed.

First.—The Act of the twenty-third Victoria, chapter three, for regulating the issuing of, and the proceedings under a special commission of oyer and terminer for the trial of certain offences committed in the county of Cornwall, is hereby extended to all cases of offences committed within the last twelve months, or hereafter to be committed within this Island.

How special jury is to be struck.

Second.—That it shall be lawful for the Crown, at the trial, to require a special jury to be struck in Court from the panel of jurors so summoned, and thereupon all the names of the jurors on such panel, except the names of those who shall have been sworn and empanelled on the grand jury, shall be written on separate pieces of paper, and placed by the officer of the Court in a box or hat, and shall be then and there ballotted for in open Court, and the Crown and the prisoner, or some one on their behalf, shall be each at liberty to object to the names of twelve persons, called and drawn from such panel, until a full jury be formed.

In case of refusal to join in ballot, Court to appoint some one to act for prisoner.

Third.—That if the prisoner, or his attorney, shall refuse or neglect to join in balloting for such special jury, it shall be lawful for the Court to appoint some one to act on behalf of the prisoner.

Passed the Assembly, this 9th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 17th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 7 in No. 41.

(No. 4,541.) 29 Vict., Cap. VIII.

An Act to prevent the Training of Persons to the Use of Arms, and to the practice of Military Evolutions and Exercise.

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient that no persons, or bodies of men, should be permitted to assemble and practice military training and exercise within this island, except only Her Majesty's forces, and such other persons as are thereunto authorised, as aftermentioned by the Governor: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Meetings of persons for the purpose of being trained, or of practising military exercise, prohibited.

1. All meetings and assemblies of persons for the purpose of training or drilling themselves, or of being trained or drilled to the use of arms, or for the purpose of practising military exercise, movements, or evolutions, without authority from the Captain-General of this island, by commission or otherwise, shall be, and the same are hereby prohibited.

Punishment of persons present at, or attending such meetings.

2. Every person who shall be present at or attend any such meeting or assembly, for the purpose of training or drilling any other person or persons to the use of arms, or the practice of military exercise, movements, or evolutions, or who shall train or drill any other person or persons to the use of arms, or the practice of military exercise, movements, or evolutions, or who shall aid or assist therein, being legally convicted thereof, shall be liable to be kept in penal servitude for a term not exceeding seven years, or to be punished by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding two years, at the discretion of the Court in which such conviction shall be had.

Also on persons who shall be present for the purpose of being trained or drilled to the use of arms, &c.

3. Every person who shall attend or be present at any such meeting as aforesaid, for the purpose of being, or who shall, at any such meeting or assembly, be trained or drilled to the use of arms, or the practice of military exercise, movements, or evolutions, being legally convicted thereof, shall be liable to be punished by fine and imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, at the discretion of the Court in which such conviction shall be had.

Persons so assembled may be dispersed, or detained, and required to give bail, and prosecuted.

4. It shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace, or for any constable or peace officer, or for any officer holding a commission in the militia or volunteer forces of this island, or for any other person or persons acting in their aid or assistance, to disperse any such unlawful meeting or assembly, and to arrest and detain any person present at, or aiding, assisting, or abetting any such assembly or meeting; and it shall be lawful for the Justice of the Peace who shall arrest any such person, or before whom any person

so arrested shall be brought, to commit such person for trial, unless such person can and shall give sufficient bail for his appearance at the next Circuit Court of the parish in which he may have been apprehended, to answer to any indictment which may be preferred against him for any such offence against this Act.

Offenders may be prosecuted as if this Act had not been made.

5. Nothing in this Act contained shall extend to prevent any prosecution, indictment, or otherwise, for anything which shall be an offence within the intent and meaning of this Act, and which might have been so prosecuted, if this Act had not been made, unless the offender shall have been prosecuted for such offence under this Act, and convicted or acquitted of such offence.

Limitation of actions.

6. Any action or suit which shall be brought or commenced against any Justice of the Peace, constable, peace officer, or other officer or person, for anything done or acted in pursuance of this Act, shall be commenced within six calendar months next after the fact committed, and not afterwards; and the defendant in every such action or suit may plead the general issue, and give this Act, and the special matter, in evidence at any trial to be had thereon; and if such action or suit shall be brought or commenced after the time limited for bringing the same, then the jury shall find a verdict for the defendant.

General issue may be pleaded.

Prosecution to commence within six months after committal of offence, &c.

7. No person shall be prosecuted by virtue of this Act for anything done or committed contrary to the provisions hereinbefore contained, unless such prosecution shall be commenced within six calendar months after the offence was committed.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

Passed the Assembly, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

I consent, this 17th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 41.

(No. 4,542,) 29 Vict., Cap. IX.

An Act to prevent the administering or taking Unlawful Oaths.

Preamble.

WHEREAS divers wicked and evil-disposed persons have of late attempted to seduce others of Her Majesty's subjects from their duty and allegiance to Her Majesty, and to incite them to acts of sedition, and have attempted to give effect to their wicked and traitorous proceedings, by imposing upon the persons they have attempted to seduce the obligation of oaths, unlawfully administered: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same as follows:—

Persons administering unlawful oaths liable to penal servitude for life.

First. Every person who shall, in any manner or form whatsoever, administer, or cause to be administered, or be aiding or assisting at the administering of any oaths or engagement, purporting or intending to bind the person taking the same to commit any treason, arson, or murder, shall, on conviction thereof by due course of law, be liable to be kept in penal servitude for the term of his natural life, or for such term of years as the Court before which he shall be tried shall adjudge.

Persons administering unlawful oaths, or taking them voluntarily, or not revealing same, liable to penal servitude not exceeding seven years.

Second. Every person who shall, in any manner or form whatsoever, administer, or cause to be administered, or be aiding or assisting at, or present at, and consenting to the administering or taking of any oath or engagement, purporting or intended to bind the person taking the same to engage in any mutinous or seditious purpose, or to disturb the public peace, or to be of any association, society, or confederacy, formed for any such purpose, or to obey the orders or commands of any committee or body of men, not lawfully constituted, or of any leader or commander, or other person not having authority of law for that purpose, or not to inform or give evidence against any associate, confederate, or other person, or not to reveal or discover any unlawful combination or confederacy, or not to reveal or discover any illegal act done or to be done, or any illegal oath or engagement which may have been administered or tendered to, or taken by any such person, or to or by any such other person, or the import of any such oath or engagement; and every person who shall take any such oath or engagement, not being compelled thereto, shall, on conviction thereof by due course of law, be liable to be kept in penal servitude for any term of years not exceeding seven years.

Persons compelled to take such oaths not justified unless they declare the same within fourteen days.

Third. Compulsion shall not justify or excuse any person taking such oath or engagement, unless he or she shall, within fourteen days after the taking thereof, if not

prevented by actual force or sickness, and then within fourteen days after the hindra produced by such force or sickness shall cease, declare the same, together with the whole of what he or she shall know touching the same, and the person or persons by whom and in whose presence, and when and where such oath or engagement was administered or taken, by information on oath before any Justice of the Peace, or in case the person taking such oath or engagement shall be in actual service in Her Majesty's forces by sea or land, or in the Militia or Volunteer forces of this Island, then by such information on oath as aforesaid, or by information to his commanding officer.

Persons charged with offences under this Act to appear before a Justice of the Peace within three months after passing of this Act, and declare same, &c.

Fourth. Every person who, before he shall be charged with any offence under this Act, in taking any oath or engagement therein described, shall, within three months after the passing of this Act, appear before some Justice of the Peace and declare the same, and the oath or engagement so taken, and when and where the same was taken, and in what manner, and who shall at the same time take before such Justice of the Peace the oath of allegiance to Her Majesty, shall be, and is hereby indemnified against any prosecution for any offence under this Act; and no confession so made by any such person shall be given in evidence against the person making the same in any Court, or in any case whatever.

Persons aiding, &c., at taking such oaths, or causing them to be administered, though not present, to be deemed principals.

Fifth. Any person aiding and assisting at the administering of any such oath or engagement as aforesaid, and any person causing any such oath or engagement to be administered, though not present at the administering thereof, shall be deemed a principal offender, and shall be tried as such, and, on conviction thereof by due course of law, be liable to be kept in penal servitude for the term of his natural life, or for such term of years as the Court before which he shall be tried shall adjudge, although the person or persons who actually administered such oath or engagement, if any such there shall be, shall not have been tried or convicted.

In indictments it shall be sufficient to set forth the purport of such oath.

Sixth. It shall not be necessary in any indictment against any person administering, or causing to be administered or taken, or taking any such oath or engagement as aforesaid, or aiding or assisting at, or present at and consenting to the administering or taking thereof, to set forth the words of such oath or engagement, and that it shall be sufficient to set forth the purport of such oath or engagement, or some material part thereof.

Engagements in the nature of an oath to be deemed oath, &c.

Seventh. Any engagement or obligation whatsoever in the nature of an oath, purporting or intending to bind the person taking the same to commit any treason, arson, or murder, shall be deemed an oath within the intent and meaning of this Act, in whatever form or manner the same shall be administered or taken, and whether the same shall be actually administered by any person or persons to any other person or persons, or taken by any other person or persons, without any administration thereof by any other person or persons.

Persons tried under this Act not to be tried again for the same offence, but if not so tried, may be tried as for high treason, &c.

Eighth. Any person who shall be tried and acquitted, or convicted of any offence against this Act, shall not be liable to be indicted, prosecuted, or tried again for the same offence or fact as high treason, or misprision of high treason, and that nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to extend to prohibit any person, guilty of any offence against this Act, from being tried for the same as high treason, or misprision of high treason, in such manner as if this Act had not been made.

Prosecution for offences under this Act to be commenced within six months, &c.

Ninth. If any person or persons shall at any time be sued or prosecuted for anything by him or them done or executed in pursuance of or by colour of this Act, or of any matter or thing herein contained, such action or prosecution shall be commenced within the space of six months next after the offence shall have been committed, and such person or persons shall and may plead the general issue, and give the special matter in evidence for his or their defence; and if, upon trial, a verdict shall pass for the Defendant or Defendants, or the Plaintiff shall be nonsuited, or shall discontinue his or their suit or prosecution, or if judgment be given for the Defendant or Defendants upon demurrer or otherwise, such Defendant or Defendants shall have full costs to him or them to be awarded against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs.

Secs. 3, 4, and 5 of 4 George IV repealed.

Tenth. The third, fourth, and fifth Sections of the Act of the fourth George the Fourth, chapter thirteen, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

Passed the Assembly, this 16th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

I consent, this 17th day of November, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 42.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 14.)

(No. 298.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a statement which has been sent to me in writing by a Mr. Carr, a gentleman of position and property in this island.

The occurrence narrated shows the state of feeling existing amongst the negro population, their utter abnegation of all law or of the rights of property, and their apparent recklessness as to what offences they commit.

It is singular, too, that the people generally concerned in acts of lawlessness are not the ordinary labourers of the country, but the peasantry, who for the most part have holdings of their own, and if they labour at all for hire only do so occasisnally when it suits their own purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Mr. Carr's Statement.

November 16, 1865.

ON the 13th instant I had occasion to send a yoke of cattle from Riversdale, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale to the line of the parish of St. Mary, to assist in removing some machinery. One of the cattle got fatigued, and was left by order of the book-keeper near Pear-Tree Grove post-office, the book-keeper going on with the remainder of the cattle. About two hours after he was suddenly recalled on account of a statement made to him, that a gang of people had killed the steer, and were making away with the carcase. He immediately returns to the place where the steer had been left, and not a vestige of the animal remained. He had several of the people apprehended who were concerned in the destruction of the animal. People threatened the book-keeper, and one woman called to the men to cut his head off if there was any nonsense.

These people, to my personal knowledge, are small settlers, and well to do in the world.

(Signed) WILLIAM CARR

No. 43.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 14.)

(No. 299.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of presentments by the Grand Jurors of Hanover, St. James, and St. Ann's, relative to the state of this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

Mr. Justice Kemble to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Lucea, November* 6, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the presentment of the Grand Jury of the parish of Hanover, made to me this day whilst presiding at the Hanover Circuit Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD KEMBLE *J.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Parish of Hanover.

To the Honourable Edward Kemble, Judge of the Supreme Court.

The Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Parish of Hanover.

May it please your Honour,

WE, the Grand Inquest of the parish of Hanover, deem it our duty in the present state of the island to call your Honour's attention to the unprotected condition of the loyal and peaceable inhabitants of this parish.

As we have hitherto believed that no class of the inhabitants of the island were labouring under any social or political disadvantages, we were astonished and confounded at the causeless and bloody insurrection which has devastated the parish of St. Thomas in the East, and whilst we are convinced that a large number of the inhabitants of the island are loyal and well-disposed, we regret to say that from indications we have observed in our various districts, we are of opinion that the spirit of disaffection is widely spread.

We are pleased and grateful for the energy and promptitude manifested by his Excellency the Governor, the military and naval authorities, in putting down the rebellion; but we naturally entertain fears for the stability of peace and order in the island, unless stringent and immediate measures be adopted for their preservation.

We sincerely trust that the Legislature which will meet to-morrow will adopt measures to attain this end, and we request your Honour to transmit to his Excellency the Governor the opinion of the Grand Jury that the loyal inhabitants of this parish are willing to submit to any sacrifice that may be necessary to secure the peace of the island.

On behalf and by desire of the Grand Jury,

(Signed) JACOB LYON, *Foreman.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 43.

Mr. Justice Kemble to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Montego Bay, November* 14, 1865.

I BEG to inclose for his Excellency's information the presentment of the Grand Jury of the parish of St. James, made to me at the St. James Circuit Court yesterday.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD KEMBLE, *J.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 43.

Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Parish of St. James.

To his Honour the Judge.

WE, the Grand Inquest of St. James, take leave to represent to your Honour an irregularity and oversight in the preparation of the panel of jurors for this parish, which now and for some time past has prevailed. We refer to the omission from the panel of the Grand Jury of Magistrates and other gentlemen of standing, education, and intelligence, and also the continuance on the panel of others who by their age should be exempt therefrom.

We need scarcely assure your Honour of our devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen, and that our utmost endeavours will at all times be exerted to preserve peace and order in our parish.

We further beg to call the attention of the Government through your Honour, to the general inefficiency of the police force of this parish. The Inspector is required to attend two parishes, viz., St. James and Hanover, while his health does not admit of his discharging the duties appertaining to one. The senior Sergeant, on whom the responsibility rests during the absence and ill-health of the Inspector, resides at the distance of one mile from the police station, and consequently the discipline of the force is seriously affected thereby. We regret to observe that a latent spirit of discontent appears to exist among the labouring classes of this parish, which at any time

may manifest itself by overt acts, and which alone may be restrained by the presence of an adequate military force.

(Signed) R. W. BUCHANAN, *Foreman.*

November 13, 1865.

Inclosure 5 in No. 43.

Mr. Justice Cargill to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Spring Garden, November* 16, 1865.

HEREWITH I beg leave to inclose a presentment of the Grand Jury of St. Ann's, which, as you will observe, I was requested to convey to his Excellency the Governor.

I am glad to say the St. Mary and St. Ann's Circuit Courts have passed over quietly, and all the business has been concluded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JASPER F. CARGILL.

Inclosure 6 in No. 43.

Presentment of the Grand Jury of the Parish of St. Ann.

To his Honour Judge Cargill.

WE, the Grand Jurors of the parish of St. Ann, beg to thank your Honour for your charge.

We with you are also gratified that at such a time as this the Calendar contains so few cases, and comparatively of so trivial a character.

We likewise agree with your Honour in hoping that the Legislature now sitting may be guided by true wisdom in legislating for the future welfare of this island.

We cannot separate without respectfully requesting you to convey to his Excellency the Governor our sincere appreciation of the foresight, energy, and decision which have marked his conduct throughout the late unhappy rebellion, whereby, in our humble opinion, the lives and property of many loyal subjects have been saved.

(Signed) THOMAS B. SCOTT, *Foreman.*

November 13, 1865.

No. 44.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 16, 1865.

(No. 302.) (Answered No. 8, December 22, 1865, page 257.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit various documents illustrative of the state of the island.

2. I would particularly call your attention to Colonel Whitfield's letter of the 21st instant, and to letters from Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Salmon dated the 16th instant; Mr. Finlayson to Mr. Salmon dated the 16th instant; and Mr. Wheatle to Mr. Salmon dated the 16th instant.

3. There can be no question but that the island is still in a very precarious position, and that we are only enabled to keep down a further rising of the negro population by the most watchful vigilance and by the constant presence of troops and men-of-war.

The pikes described in the letters to Mr. Salmon are similar to what the people of Hayti use as weapons.

4. It will be especially requisite to be prepared and on our guard a little before and a little after Christmas, that season and August being the periods at which the negroes usually cease from all work, and are most likely to engage in any disturbances which they may meditate.

5. You may rely upon my using every endeavour in my power to preserve tranquillity, and upon my submitting to the Legislature now in session such measures as are essential to confer upon the Government the powers necessary to deal with the great emergency which exists.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Colonel Whitfield to the Private Secretary.

Sir, *Falmouth, Jamaica, November* 12, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that yesterday I visited a detachment of the 2nd West India Regiment under my command, stationed at Brown's Town. In course of conversation with Lieutenant Last the officer in charge, he informed me that he had heard that people are in the habit of drilling at a place called Philadelphia, and from what he could understand these negroes were very disorderly; he heard that a man by the name of * * * could tell me something about these people.

I immediately sent for * * * who gave me the information contained in the inclosure.

I must add that * * * appears a most respectable loyal black man, and I am quite sure his statement can be depended upon.

I have forwarded his statement direct to his Excellency the Governor so as not to cause delay, as I understand Major-General O'Connor has left Head-quarters on a tour of inspection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. WHITFIELD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Statement made by * * * *at Brown's Town, Jamaica, November* 11, 1865.

* * * states:—

Thomas Rodney wrote me a letter about two weeks before Mr. Gordon's meeting at St. Ann's Bay that I must come down to the Bay before the meeting, as he wished to see me.

When I went there on a Saturday, he and one Joseph Burton (who signed the letter as Acting Secretary to the meeting) said the meeting would be held next Saturday, so I must try and come down, and if I came at all, I must come on Friday and sleep with him, because he wanted me to read and well understand the resolution that I had to speak at the meeting, as it was written.

I told him I did not understand the meeting, what was it for? and what good would it do?

He told me the poor labouring people could get nothing to do. I said in my quarter people can get plenty to do. I told him if I came to the meeting, I would show the meeting something that they would agree with, and both him and Burton asked me what I meant by saying so.

I told him I wanted a person to work for me last week; the person said he had no clothing. I told him the most things the person complaimed of was a shirt. I went to Mr. Costa's store and purchased a shirt for him, my wife made it, and I gave it to him. I have never seen him since.

I told him that would be one part of my resolution that I would speak at the meeting. Burton said, if I came and spoke that at the meeting they would stone me off; he said we have an honourable gentleman coming from Kingston of the name of George W. Gordon, and he wanted to see me the evening before the morning of the meeting, because we propose a little private meeting the night before the morning of the meeting, in Father Walter's yard in St. Ann's Bay.

As it was getting late, Burton told me to wait, and he would give me some circulars to carry up, and all would have to give a shilling that were willing to come; he said Wm. Scurvin promised to give him a shilling, and I took out a shilling and gave him, saying, if Scurvin paid it again to me I would keep it. Burton took the shilling and received it for Rodney. I said, Mr. Rodney, I would like to know the particulars of this meeting. He said, Well, this meeting is for this reason: this reverend gentleman is about to see us righted; we have been too long ground down by the white people, and he is about to take the veil off our faces and let us see for ourselves. After this meeting (he said) we are going to send a petition to the Queen, and if there is no good done something or other must be turned up, and Jamaica will be better than what it is; he said when I came down he would tell me more.

John Thomas, the Petty Debt Collector's deputy, said, pointing out me to another

gentleman in the presence of another gentleman, that I was the great lawyer from Brown's Town; I expect he is coming down to the meeting, and going to make them smell smoke.

I said I did not intend to come, because I was to be guided by written resolutions, and that I am a man that likes to speak my own mind. "The Watchman" was the paper Brown was reading to me in Mr. French's shop.

Alexander Scurvin (the son of the man Wm. Scurvin), told me, 8th night of October, about 12 o'clock in the night, in the town of Philadelphia, I heard a great bawling out. He said (Alex. Scurvin), all you gone to bed, but I am awake, and just coming home. He said all families, we all, must walk in shoes and stockings the same as white people. I am just coming home now, but you don't know where I have come from, so open your ears good and hear what I have to say. Black people raised up at St. David's yonder; they kill 2,600 buckras, and they are all going to walk in shoes and stockings, and we must do the same: and in the midst of killing them they killed six Baptist ministers, and they do right to kill them, because when they hold the meeting the Baptist ministers would not assist the one black man we can depend upon, and can get a little powder and shot, is against us, taking away our right to give it away to buckra; but the day Norman's case is tried, if Mr. Ingram get it, that day martial law will raise.

I sent to call his father in the morning. I heard three different voice speaking, but I could not understand what what they said, but heard what Nancy Davis said. "What buckra can do with black? The Maroons will help the black, and kill all the buckra, and she was well pleased to hear what Scurvin said last night." (This was said the following morning.)

The man acknowledged to his father what I have already stated, in the presence of my wife.

At this present time there are people holding meetings at night at Philadelphia, in a booth they have erected themselves, and are in the habit of playing with sticks there.

Another fellow they call Charles Truman, last Saturday came home about 8 at night. He stopped by my gate and said, "Family, I am going to tell you now, if you hear what I say, that great King would not be here still,—that retreat man. I was coming from Duncan's. Wm. Cover tells us that we must all stand quite still, but he is making us a fool. I have many things to say, but on account of that retreat man (meaning me), would tell buckra all them places where we hear they make fight up. Yonder all black people hold on one thing, but if my soul is damned to hell, that great King shall not reign here. We will keep secret, and not let buckra know."

One Barrett immediately called out, "All right, all right," and he went away.

(Signed) * * * *

Inclosure 3 in No. 44.

Minute by Governor Eyre.

FORWARDED for information of Executive Committee. This only shows the correctness of our previous information, and the impolicy of reducing or withdrawing posts established at the request of the Executive, without consulting the Executive as to such reduction or withdrawal.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

November 13, 1865.

Inclosure 4 in No. 44.

Minute by the Executive Committee.

WE understand that Mr. Westmorland is ill in bed, but has expressed his opinion, in which we concur, that these papers should be referred to the Custos, Mr. Royes, and then ask Attorney-General to advise whether Rodney, Burton, Scurvin, Nancy Davis, and any others implicated by the statement of * * * should be arrested.

(Signed) ROBERT HAMILTON.
WM. HOSACK.

Approved:
(Signed) E. EYRE.
November 13, 1865.

Inclosure 5 in No. 44.

Remarks by Mr. Royes.

I INDORSE * * * statement so far as regards the turbulent character of the people generally in the Brown's Town District, and more especially at Philadelphia; still it must be regarded with due caution: for these reasons, * * * is at enmity with Scurvin and Barrett, and his own character is that of a turbulent man, who would stick at nothing to compass his own ends. With respect to Rodney and Burton the Attorney-General must decide if the evidence is sufficient; both are held in great, and, I think, deserved suspicion, on account of their conversation with Gordon, the distribution by them of Gordon's placards, and the general rumour among the peasantry that they looked to them for leadership, but I have not heard on any reliable authority of any overt word or act by either of them. Rodney for a long time held the office of Deputy-Collecting Constable, and is now a road contractor; he is rather a morose man, but further than being bad tempered I know no evil against him. Burton is an idle man, does nothing, and bears a bad character.

I do not think it would be a prudent step to remove the troops from Brown's Town, and measures should be taken without * * * knowledge to test the truth of his statement as to the drillings and meetings; for although I put no faith in him, yet I know the value of the old adage, "When thieves fall out," &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ROYES,
Custos of St. Ann.

* * * statement with regard to Rodney and Burton is not open to same suspicion as that against the other men.

Inclosure 6 in No. 44.

Minute by Governor Eyre.

REFERRED to the Attorney-General for his opinion and advice to be returned as soon as possible.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

November 16, 1865, 7 A.M.

Inclosure 7 in No. 44.

The Attorney-General's Opinion.

I ENTIRELY agree in Mr. Royes' estimate of * * * credibility. I have had frequent experience of him as a witness in the course of the last fifteen or sixteen years, and do not consider his testimony reliable in any particular without corroboration.

I consider the language attributed to Rodney and the younger Scurvin (where scored in the margin) to be seditious.

I would recommend these papers being sent to the Magistrate's Clerk of St. Ann's (who knows the people well), with the view of his ascertaining whether or not the corroborative evidence * * * alludes to (his wife and, perhaps, the elder Scurvin's) or any other can be obtained.

I may add that the whole Act of IV Geo., cap. 13 (except section 10), is still in force; the sections 8, 9, and 10 having been made perpetual by 7 Wm. IV, cap. 12.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP.

November 16, 1865.

Inclosure 8 in No. 44.

Governor Eyre to Colonel Whitfield.

My dear Sir, *King's House, Spanish Town, November* 13, 1865.

I WAS very sorry not to have had the pleasure of seeing you before you left for Falmouth, as I should much like to have had the opportunity of talking over with you

the state of the country and the policy which I consider it right to adopt to preserve, as far as practicable, peace and good order, and prevent the occurrence of any further actual outbreak of rebellion.

At the time that you arrived the insurrection in the eastern parishes was thoroughly got under, but from information reaching the Government from every direction it was evident that a seditious and disloyal spirit pervaded the entire island, and that in several localities the negroes were prepared to rise and repeat the scenes which occurred in St. Thomas-in-the-East, if a fitting opportunity presented itself; there were also good grounds for supposing that a considerable amount of intercommunication had taken place between the disaffected of the different parishes, and that had the rising not been brought about somewhat prematurely at Morant Bay, it would at a later period of the year have been more general and simultaneous.

Under these circumstances the natural, and, indeed, the necessary action of the Government was to station small parties of troops as rapidly as practicable at as great a number of distinct positions as possible, having in view, of course, first, the requirements and comparative urgency of the requirements of the respective districts; and secondly, the accommodation obtainable for troops, and the means of supporting them by reinforcements, or by men-of-war should such support be required.

I am quite aware that in a soldier's point of view, the dispersion of troops in small isolated detachments is not looked upon with a favourable eye, and that, in fact, it is exceedingly demoralizing as regards organization and discipline. But under the circumstances in which the colony is placed there is no help for it, and it is better that the troops should suffer in their military organization and discipline for a time, if thereby they can prevent the outbreak of rebellion, than that by being concentrated and kept in good military order they should leave openings for the disaffection to gain ground and break into a rebellion, which once existing might require a much larger number of troops and a long period of time for its suppression.

It is from considerations of this kind that I have felt it my duty to call upon the General to make so many detached stations.

That the policy is a sound one is shown by the result at each station where difficulties were anticipated; the mere stationing of a small body of troops has allayed apprehension, and has so far had the effect of keeping the several districts quiet. It is, however, important to bear in mind that it does not follow because the districts are quiet therefore the troops may be withdrawn; it is the presence of the troops that causes this quietude. The tendency to sedition and rebellion is still latent, and requires to be carefully watched and kept in check for some time to come. By degrees this feeling will no doubt pass away, the present excitement be forgotten, and everything pass to its usual ordinary course. It will then be practicable to withdraw the troops from many of the stations, and concentrate them at a few of the principal positions, but there will be time enough to discuss these matters hereafter. For some weeks to come I think the whole of the points now occupied should be kept up. I do not know whether you have a station on the line between Savanna la Mar and Montego Bay, about Kew Park; but from the account we have of the dispositions of the negroes in the districts bordering on that line, it appears very desirable to have such a post established for a time. It has an immense moral effect to show that troops are available, and can at any moment be located even in the interior districts, nor does it in the least signify that the posts at the chief ports and towns are weakened, now that we have so large a naval force around the coast. I yesterday arranged with Admiral Sir J. Hope that five men-of-war should, for the present, be stationed at different outposts, besides his own large vessel, the "Duncan," to lie off Kingston, and others at Port Royal, ready for any service required. I am also sending a large body of loyal Maroons, armed, through the country, to fraternize with the Maroons at Accompang, in St. James, and to show the negroes that if need were, we have a large force at once applicable, who could follow and hunt them out of the most secret and inaccessible recesses of the mountains. The object of all my arrangements is, if possible, to prevent the occurrence of any further outbreak, and gradually to bring back the negro mind to a state of quietude and good feeling. I should be glad to hear from you, and learn your impressions as to the state of matters or of feeling in the parishes you have visited.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 44.

Colonel Whitfield to Governor Eyre.

My dear Governor, *Falmouth, November* 21, 1865.

I DID not like to answer your letter of the 13th instant until I had visited all the detachments in my districts, and seen enough of the people to give an opinion. I quite agree with you in thinking that a seditious and disloyal spirit pervades the entire island, and that in all probability the negroes would rise were it not for the presence of the military. I think that a considerable amount of intercommunication has been and is taking place between the disaffected in the different parishes, for I observe men of sullen and dissatisfied looks riding about the country in all directions; about one-half the negroes look happy and contented, the remainder as if they would take much pleasure in cutting one's throat. I think the same feeling exists amongst the women, but I do not think this feeling is confined to that district between Savanna la Mar and Montego Bay, but everywhere.

I am of opinion that not a single man can be withdrawn from any of my detachments at Port Maria, Brown's Town, Montego Bay, Lucea, or Savanna la Mar, but they should be increased; this might be done by getting one company from Demerara (the only one in that command) and one from Belize, or adding 250 recruits to the regiment, which I have strongly advised the Major-General to recommend; in short, fully 600 men are required for the North-West District.

I must now remark on the police force of this Colony; they are in every district. I have seen a most inefficient body of men, in many cases old and infirm; they are badly clothed, and look badly fed. I should say if their services were required they would be next to useless; they are inferior to those in Barbados, St. Vincent's, and Demerara, and I attribute this entirely to the force being located in their own parishes. I should suggest that the whole police be under the command of a Chief, an active and intelligent young military officer, and the present Inspector under his orders; they should be frequently moved from one part of the island to another; they should be properly armed and drilled, and a portion should be properly mounted and attached to each station for the purpose of carrying despatches and making rapid movements in any direction required, escorts, &c.

With reference to the military under my command, you are no doubt aware that at present the men at each station are in a most unenviable condition; all the buildings are in ruins, and the soldiers are without barrack furniture or bedding.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. WHITFIELD.

Inclosure 10 in No. 44.

Mr. Lawrence to Mr. Salmon.

Sir, *Malvern Police Office, November* 16, 1865.

ON Monday last I was informed that there were a large number of spears or lances at a place called the Buildings, near Round Hill, and a number of persons, male and female, keeping secret meetings, and have been doing so for a long time past. I immediately sent for the Inspector of Police and requested him to search the place, and if any such were found to apprehend all persons.

After the search was made and a large number of these spears were found, also a large quantity of stones, a loaded gun, and a paper signed Bogle, with several unintelligible sentences, such as the war to begin at Lucea on the 7th August, and buckras and brown men to be killed, also their animals and beasts. I believe the police apprehended twelve or fourteen persons, and conveyed them to Black River; these would be brought up at the Court to be held at Black River yesterday, and I requested Mr. Wheatle to ask the Magistrates to remand them till you had been consulted as to the mode of disposing of them. "There being no act in force to punish them," was the opinion of Mr. Wheatle. I think the new Bill for a Commission to try such cases was the intention of the Government. There are several other places in the parish where I think more of these spears are to be found, and I mentioned them to Mr. Wheatle, who says that he will come up at the end of the week and search. This delay ought not to take place, as the person supposed will have ample time to destroy them. I then went to Mr. Finlason, the senior Magistrate, and informed him of what I had done, and then learnt that Mr. Myers had

searched a man's house in his neighbourhood and found three spears similar to the others, and this man belongs to the same band or society called "Revivalists." If we have to wait till we can get sworn affidavits before we search suspicious places, I fear a number of these persons will evade justice. My opinion is that at once there is suspicion to search, and no loyal person would object.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) HENRY LAWRENCE, *J.P.*

Inclosure 11 in No. 44.

Mr. Finlason to Mr. Salmon.

My dear Sir, *Kensington, November* 16, 1865.

I WROTE you last post about some Revivalists' meeting-houses, &c., particularly as to one named "Hines," since which much more has come to light. At the time I was writing to you some one had informed Mr. Myers as to Hines' proceedings, when accompanied by a constable, he went to Hines' house, close to Portsea, and there found some hard wood pikes about 7 or 8 feet long and well sharpened, secreted behind his bed. Mr. M. sent him on to B—— River. On his way he had to pass Mr. Lawrence's shop at Malvern, when a man said, Good, them catch him with the sticks, but if he sent police to Ricket's house, just below Flamone Hill, he would see more. On questioning the man as to how he knew it, he told Mr. L. that a girl, who had been living with them and who had managed to escape, told him that they had a large quantity of these pointed sticks in Ricket's house, and heaps of stones, and that a large number of people constantly met there. Mr. L. came to me late yesterday afternoon, and said that upon this information he sent for the Inspector of Police and four men on Monday, who slept at Malvern that night and left about 4 o'clock in the morning of Tuesday for Ricket's house, where they found a number of men and women, all of whom they took into custody and conveyed to the B—— River, leaving a constable to capture Rickets on his return, he being absent. The constable succeeded, and took him on to the Bay. The number caught is about fifteen, but there are, I believe, many more. The police took with them about three dozen of the sharpened iron-wood sticks, and, from what I could learn, left as many as would load a mule cart in the house. Wednesday was the day for Special Sessions; but I suppose the prisoners were not tried, as Mr. Lawrence desired the Inspector not to have them tried until further orders, &c. I have not heard anything further, but hope they have not been tried, as it is probable that something may turn up proving that some of them are in some way concerned with the Bogles and Gordon, for in this man's house several papers were found, which, no doubt, the Inspector has forwarded to you by this day's post. Mr. Lawrence says there was hardly any making out some of the papers from bad writing and spelling, but sufficient to show that one or both the Bogles (Paul and Henry) were mentioned when they were read by Mr. Wheatle; and some time ago I heard that Paul Bogle had been in the district, also Gilling; and from these papers Mr. Lawrence says the rebellion was to have commenced on the 7th August at Lucea.

I have sent a constable to another house of Ricketts in the savanna below Mr. Myers; also McPhersons, alias John the Baptist, and one named Newman and Isabella the Comforter, &c.; and if any guns or sharpened sticks are found in their houses or premises, to take them and bring them to me. Newman, I believe, visits three or four places to hold forth, and is, I believe, a great villain.

There is a rule amongst this society that they, the men, I believe, are not to work even in their own grounds; and that if they are found at work, they are to be flogged. I hear that "John the Baptist" himself was found transgressing the rules, when he was severely beaten; when being flogged, he declared he was starving, and had nothing to eat. This man at one time was well off, having a neat settlement, fine coffee-piece, tobacco, and provisions, and possessed some money, &c.; now he is reduced to beggary, and looks a most miserable emaciated creature. I am in hopes the Constable may return before I send this to post, that I may give you any further information as to his researches. I hope I may get a reply to my last letter by to-morrow's post.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. FINLASON.

6 o'clock P.M.—Constable McPherson, who went to John McPherson's house, alias John the Baptist, found seventeen of the sharp sticks about 7 feet long, three clubs, and

a red flag on a long pole; he also brought the man and his wife. As it is late, and I must forward this to post to-night, I have sent John McPherson to Noseberry Police Station for the night, in hopes of getting further evidence in the morning. The constable also brought one club and a lot of drawings from Rickets' second house; no written documents of notice. One of the constables will search Newman's house to-night. John McPherson will not say a word beyond that of "Give myself up to the Lord, who knows all things."

Inclosure 12 in No. 44.

Mr. Wheatle to Mr. Salmon.

Sir, *Black River, November* 16, 1865.

ON Monday evening, about 8 o'clock, I received a despatch from Henry Lawrence, Esq., stating a number of people in the Buildings district were armed with spikes. I went up during the night, accompanied by Captain Maxwell and some police, and searched the house, in which I found upwards of 100 spikes made of hard wood; they are about 8 or 9 feet long. Mr. Lawrence directed me, should I find any spikes, to apprehend the persons in the house, and take them to Black River, which I did. Mr. Myers has also sent down some from the Portsea district, also armed with spikes. Mr. Levy says there is no Act to try the people by; I have, therefore, written to ask you how I am to act. I believe all the Revivalists in this parish and Manchester are similarly armed. Mr. Lawrence wished me to apprehend them all in this parish. If I had done so, I would now have had in custody upwards of one hundred. I did not think it advisable, for if they were apprehended, and then discharged, it would do more harm than good. This sect are in the habit of prophesying the destruction of life and property; and if there is not some stop put to their wandering from parish to parish, I am afraid they will take care to make some of their prophecies come to pass. As there appears to be great apprehension amongst some of the people in the St. Cruize Mountains, I have ordered up nine of the police, as the soldiers are now here. I believe they are needlessly alarmed. Should you write to me by Tuesday's post, please direct to Malvern Police Office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS WHEATLE, *Inspector.*

Inclosure 13 in No. 44.

Mr. Salmon to Messrs. Finlason and Wheatle.

Sir, *Spanish Town, November* 20, 1865.

IT is no offence to be in possession of any number of sharpened hard wood stakes, but it may well be coupled with the surrounding circumstances, an index of an intent to rebel, or commit some offence, or one of the offences as are specified in the Island Act, 4th Geo. IV, c. 13, s. 1. If upon examination of the prisoners, corroborative, circumstantial, or other evidence be obtained, showing a reasonable suspicion of a plot for any such purpose, they should be held to bail to answer for conspiring to, &c., &c. (Mr. Levy* will know all this), if not they should be dismissed with a judicious caution, but without any threat of the possibility of their bringing the infliction of martial law on themselves by the manifestation of a disloyal spirit, and should be informed that the Governor can declare it much more promptly now than heretofore.

Mr. Levy will tell the Magistrates that the 8th and 9th sections of 4 Geo. IV, c. 13, though originially enacted only for one year, are made perpetual by 7 Wm. IV, c. 12, and it may be well they let the people know this. By 24 Vict., c. 14, four years of penal servitude are substituted for seven years' transportation.

The Governor went to Flamstead on Friday; he returns to-morrow, when I will lay before him your letter, and copy of this I send to Mr. Finlason.

Any communications from Bogle when found should be carefully preserved and a copy sent me. I will endeavour to forward to Mr. Levy any Act which may pass the Legislature bearing on the matter of the communications I have received.

I quite agree with you that it is not advisable to apprehend any subject on a charge which, if proven, the law does not contemplate as a punishable crime.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON, *Custos.*

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* Mr. Levy, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, St. Elizabeth.

Inclosure 14 in No. 44.

Mr. Mac Lean to Mr. Carr.

Dear Sir, *Lambkin Hill, November* 14, 1865, 5 P.M.

I HAVE just heard that Mr. Herbert Lindo has forwarded to the Custos a letter found in the box this morning threatening to burn down Gayle Store, Gayle Estate, and Lambkin Hill, and Sharpe and myself denounced, stating that the time is not long.

As I have all along condemned the apathy of the authorities here, so I now fear that, as in the rebellion in the east, all these things will be overlooked till the crash comes, which I have never ceased to think is not far off here, as they say in the letter. I am sure you will see the necessity of immediate measures of defence being provided, and the risk the property runs of being destroyed. I beg at least you will use your influence with the Governor to have a detachment of troops sent up to this district, for it is quite evident something is brewing. I am going to get a warrant out to-morrow for a man who spoke of setting fire to the estate in October, and was overheard by Nunroe, my head man. I would again ask you for the means of personal defence, in which I am entirely deficient, and a man would like to sell his life dearly, if possible, whatever the odds are against him. I only regret my weakness and inability to take an active part when it may be wanted. I am sure your influence with the Custos would induce him at once to swear in special constables, if nothing else can be done; but surely St. Mary's requires protection as well as other parishes.

Mr. De Cordova surely would not be refused, and I think he might give his overseer and book-keeper arms from the Arsenal, but I leave it to yourself. I think it right to send express to you, as there is no saying what or when the result may be. I myself think the parties are from Goshen way, and in 1848, if you remember, the 3rd West were sent up on account of a riot there. From all I can learn that is the quarter whence the disturbance will come, and that man and the Frenchman Silvera has been at the bottom of all, if I am not mistaken; but his tether is nearly out, I think.

Mr. Lindo at Moneague stated to me that the Custos told him revolvers were to be had by application to Colonel Hunt, and Mr. De Cordova's services to Government ought to command arms for the defence of his own property in such times as these.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. MAC LEAN.

Would you think it too much for the Maroons to be asked to pass this way *en route* either going or returning? The moral effect would be great.

Inclosure 15 in No. 44.

Deposition of Charles Allen.

Jamaica, ss., St. Ann.

CHARLES ALLEN of St. Ann's Bay, in the parish of St. Ann, tinsmith, personally came and appeared before me the Undersigned, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the parish of St. Ann, and being duly sworn maketh oath and saith: I am a tinsmith, and live in St. Ann's Bay, in the parish of St. Ann. About the time of the rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East, I think it was either Tuesday or Wednesday, but I am not certain, nor can I remember the day of the month, Joseph Burton came into my shop and said how bad the people were going on at St. Thomas-in-the-East, and he said they would come with a cutlass prepared and put in any person's hand and say, take this and fight, and if you refuse they will just do away with you at once; he went away after this, and nothing more was said or done.

I have not had any further conversation with Burton.

(Signed) CHARLES ALLEN.

Sworn before me at St. Ann's Bay, in the parish of St. Ann, 14th day of November, 1865.

(Signed) R. PARKINSON, *J.P., St. Ann's.*

Inclosure 16 in No. 44.

Anonymous Letter to Mr. Hollingsworth, Custos of Manchester.

Honoured Sir,

IT is with regard to my country and the public in general that I now make this report about what the people on the borders of St. Ann's and Manchester is doing. They are doing some of the greatest wrong that any human tongue can tell. They are now ready to go on side of any rebel that will fight against the whites in the island, and I do beg the public to send either soldiers or volunteers to stop the riot at once; remember, I warn you as a Custos of the parish.

Try now to send up soldiers or volunteers at once, for they are at it now, gathering up men; they are fighting at St. Ann's now. Without delay send off men at once, for they are resolved to burn down all the places that they come to. I am a liver up that side, and do think it is my duty.

I remain,

A FRIEND TO THE PUBLIC.

Inclosure 17 in No. 44.

Threatening Notice.

MY name is Daniel Watson. Take notice, I going raise war. I will be a second Paul Bogle, and will take fire and burn down Kew Park-house, and kill all the white man. I, Daniel Watson, say so. Bring black soldier? Come! we will kill them too, and I will burn down Copse Estate. I, Daniel, going raise war this very night.

Inclosure 18 in No. 44.

Mr. Justice Ker to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Gordon Town, November* 21, 1865.

I AM informed that in no part of Jamaica is disaffection more prevalent at the present moment than in the parish of St. Ann's. That this has been largely owing, there as elsewhere, to the acts of demagogues, and the seditious and disloyal tone of an unprincipled newspaper press, there can be no room to doubt.

I am called upon to observe, however, that St. Ann's has long had a real grievance. That grievance is the fact that the confidential clerk and manager of the leading mercantile firm there, the Messrs. Bravo, is at the same time Clerk of the Magistrates and Deputy Clerk of the Peace.

It is utterly imposible but that a very large proportion of the cases which come before the magistrates for adjudication are cases in which the Messrs. Bravo are, either directly or indirectly, interested, or in which they have, or are believed to have, a bias.

But could an uninstructed population ever be persuaded that justice would be done in such cases? In point of fact, they do not believe it, as I have occasion very well to know.

The influence exercised by the Clerk of the Magistrates over the Bench is necessarily very great—sometimes paramount.

Some recent decisions from St. Ann's which have been brought to my notice have given me a most unfavourable impression of the administration of justice in that parish.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALAN KER, *J.*

Minute by the Governor on the above Letter.

Refer to the Attorney-General.

I do not think the Governor has any power to deal with the above matter beyond bringing it to the notice of the Custos and Justices.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

November 23, 1865.

Minute by the Attorney-General.

I take precisely the same view of this question as his Excellency.

(Signed) A. HESLOP, *Attorney-General.*

November 23, 1865.

No. 45.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 14.)

(No. 303.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of a Resolution adopted by the Legislative Council of this Colony, expressive of the grateful thanks to the Military and Naval Forces, and to the Volunteers and Militia, for the prompt and effectual services rendered by them in the suppression of the recent insurrection in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and the prevention of its further spread throughout the entire Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Resolution of the Legislative Council.

Jamaica, ss. *In the Legislative Council, November* 10, 1865.

Resolved—

That the Legislative Council desires to express its grateful thanks to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B.; to Captain De Horsey, R.N., late Senior Naval Officer; and to the officers, and non-commissioned and warrant officers, and the men of Her Majesty's Military and Naval Forces; and to the Volunteer Militia for their prompt and effectual services in quelling the savage and cruel rebellion in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and for their exertions in arresting its progress elsewhere thoroughout the Island.

(Signed) SAML. RENNALLS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

No. 46.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 14.)

(No. 304.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of correspondence which has passed between myself and General O'Connor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 9, 1865.

AS martial law is about expiring within a few days, I should be much obliged if your Excellency would cause me to be furnished, with as little delay as possible, with a list of the prisoners at Up Park Camp and at Morant Bay, still detained in custody, but uot yet dealt with.

I have not heard whether Colonel Hobbs furnished the evidence against the rebels sent in by his party, but imagine he has done so, and that they have probably been dealt with.

The papers which I requested your Excellency would be good enough to cause to be

returned to me from Morant Bay, relative to the prisoners whom Brigadier-General Nelson declined to try by Court-martial, have not yet reached me. I should be much obliged by your requesting that they may, if possible, be transmitted to me during the present week, as Sunday next is the last day of martial law.

The prisoners taken up by the civil power and sent either to Up Park Camp or Morant Bay, I must beg you to order to be kept in custody under any circumstances, until the Government is in a position to deal with those cases.

I take upon myself the entire responsibility of the detention of these persons, although martial law will have expired.

I will duly transmit a list of such of the prisoners as the Government considers may be released on the expiry of martial law.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, November* 9, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that it is my intention to proceed in Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" on Monday next, the 13th instant, for the purpose of inspecting the military posts in the district where the recent outbreak occurred, and, taking Brigadier-General Nelson, continue the tour round the island. Mr. Bent, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals; Lieutenant-Colonel Mann, Commanding Royal Engineers; and Ensign Lanyon, Aide-de-Camp, accompany me.

Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, Deputy Adjutant-General, remaining to command and conduct the duties of the garrison at Head-quarters, Kingston, in my absence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, November* 10, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of the 9th instant, in which you state that you have not heard whether Colonel Hobbs furnished the evidence against the rebels sent in by his party, I have the honour to inform you that Colonel Hobbs being unable to furnish any evidence against these prisoners, they were dispatched by the earliest opportunity to Morant Bay, there to be either identified or discharged, in accordance with your Excellency's request.

There are now but seventeen prisoners at Up Park Camp, political prisoners being deported daily.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 10, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, informing me of your Excellency's intention to proceed in Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," on Monday next, the 13th instant, to inspect the military posts in the county of Surry, and from thence to continue your tour round the island, leaving Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, Deputy Adjutant-General, to command and conduct the duties of the garrison at head-quarters in your absence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, November* 10, 1865.

I DO myself the honour to inform you that, in accordance with instructions conveyed in your Excellency's communication of the 9th instant, the four prisoners named in the margin* were discharged from Up-park Camp last evening. Graham, March, Sinclair, Placide, and Bryan are at Morant Bay.

The several documents referred to by your Excellency, when returned from Morant Bay, will be forwarded without delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, November* 9, 1865.

I DO myself the honour to transmit, for the perusal of your Excellency, a letter from Brigadier-General Nelson respecting the establishing of permanent posts, and the state of the district under his command.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 7 in No. 46.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Morant Bay, November* 6, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report that the arrangements submitted to you for establishing permanent posts have this day been carried out, namely (strength as per margin†).

Captain Hole, 2nd Battalion 6th Company, commanding at Port Antonio; Lieutenant Warmington, Volunteer, at Manchioneal; Lieutenant Neven, 1st West India Regiment, Golden Grove; Ensign Cole, at Morant Bay.

All troops in excess of these detachments returned in Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia," and I trust landed this afternoon.

The several detachments will have medical aid rendered by Civil practitioners.

The necessary Commissariat arrangements are being entered on, and I think will be concluded satisfactorily.

I consider it my duty to bring to your notice the celerity with which all my arrangements for the interchange of troops has been carried out by Commander de Wall, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia."

This vessel left Morant Bay at 5·30 on Sunday morning, with the men of the 2nd Battalion 6th Regiment here; proceeded to Manchioneal, sent boats on shore, and the detachment under Captain Hole were brought off, and the ship went on to Port Antonio and landed all about 4 P.M.

At 3 A.M. the following day the Royal Artillery and 1st West India Regiment, detachments under Captain Luke, embarked, arriving here at 10·30; a party of 25, 1st West India Regiment, was disembarked, and a similar number embarked. At 11·30 the "Cordelia" was off, and I apprehend must have been at Kingston at 3 P.M.

For myself, I have very much to thank Captain de Wall. He rendered me the most cordial co-operation.

I cannot conclude without expressing my belief that in this part of the island every probability exists of perfect quiet being maintained. I consider the troops, posted as they are, will maintain order; and no reason prevails, at least to myself, that the inhabitants should not return to their usual avocations with entire confidence.

* Viner, Williams, Morgan, and Whitfinch.

† 2 officers and 63 men 2nd battalion 6th Regiment, Port Antonio; 13 men 1st West India Regiment, Manchioneal; 1 officer and 25 men 1st West India Regiment, Golden Grove; 1 officer and 25 men 1st West India Regiment, Morant Bay.

The several officers commanding posts report perfect quiet in this neighbourhood, and that the negroes are returning to their work.

The most perfect confidence exists at Port Antonio, and the people who had fled to it in the commencement of the rebellion are rapidly returning to their homes.

I shall return with as little delay as possible to resume my duties, but some minor details remain to be carried out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 10, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing me a copy of a letter from Brigadier-General Nelson dated 6th of November, detailing the arrangements he had made for garrisoning the districts lately in rebellion.

The number of troops retained in the district is very nearly that specified in my communication of the 26th October, though the arrangement is slightly different.

Golden Grove I believe to be a more useful position than Bath, but when I selected the latter in my letter referred to, I was not aware that any accommodation could be procured for troops at Golden Grove.

Manchioneal, I think, scarcely requires any troops, but at all events it can do no harm to have them for a time.

In my letter of the 26th October I referred ~~to certain~~ arrangements relative to the Maroons, which I wish to be referred to Colonel Fyfe as understanding their character and habits.

I have reason to believe from a conversation I had with him since, that my suggestions were unsuited to that peculiar race, and that some other plan more in accordance with their tastes would have to be adopted.

If Colonel Fyfe has made any reports on the subject I shall be obliged by your Excellency furnishing me with a copy of all such reports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarter House, November* 9, 1865.

I DO myself the honour to forward extract of a letter just received from Brigadier-General Nelson.

May I request that your Excellency will issue such orders as you think fit to the Portland militia and volunteer riflemen at Port Antonio, and also carry out the suggestions of the Brigadier-General in reference to the hospital for the troops at Morant Bay if practicable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 10 in No. 46.

Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor.

(Extract.) *Head-Quarters, Morant Bay, November* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to bring to your notice that at Port Antonio some fifty of the Portland militia are under arms, and I am not quite certain if there be not a few volunteer riflemen.

The services of these men can now, in a military point of view, be dispensed with if such should meet your approval.

The Colonial Government pay these troops when employed, and as it is a matter of finance, I bring the subject to notice in case you desire to communicate with the Governor on the subject.

I have the honour to acquaint you that the Alms-house at Morant Bay has been used for an hospital for wounded volunteers, &c., and Dr. Gerard, the Civil Practitioner, employed by the parish, and now in medical charge of troops, informs me in all probability it will, for some time to come, be required as an hospital. If two wards containing each one and two beds (total three) could be given up to the military it would be satisfactory.

I have the honour to acquaint you that at present the officers and men of the detachment 1st West India Regiment at Morant Bay occupy quarters in houses in the street, but there is a house lately occupied by Mr. Stephen Cooke, standing back from the main road, and on an elevated situation, I would desire to obtain. Every accommodation for officers and men is to be found therewith, the advantage of the officer being with his men.

I understand the rent to be 40*l.* per annum: as a matter of course the barrack accommodation will be provided by the Colony, and as the period which the detachment will remain rests with yourself, I simply desire to bring the matter under cognizance.

At Port Antonio the old barracks are sufficient; they are the property of the Colony; and at present I have, pending your sanction, authorized officers to draw lodging money, but there are good quarters in a building officers have always occupied. The Colonial Government let Mr. French have the use of them, provided he put them into repair at his own expense. This was nearly completed when the rebellion broke out. Mr. French says he will cheerfully give them up to the military, provided the expense he has incurred be reimbursed by the Government.

It would be desirable to have possession for the officers' use.

At Manchioneal and Golden Grove I apprehend no claim will be preferred for the quarters respectively occupied, as the planters have put them into houses belonging to estates.

(Signed) A. A. NELSON.

Inclosure 11 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 10, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, forwarding a communication from Brigadier-General Nelson dated 7th instant, relative to certain arrangements for the accommodation of Her Majesty's troops, and with regard to certain militia and other civil forces at Port Antonio not now required in a military point of view, I have the honour to state that the Executive Council will be obliged by your Excellency carrying out the following arrangements:—

Mr. S. Cooke's house to be rented by the Colony as a barrack for the troops at Morant Bay at the rate of 40*l.* per annum for as long a period as it may be required by the troops.

Mr. French to send in a statement (certified) of the expense he had incurred in repairing the officers' quarters, which the Colony will pay. The quarters to be given up to the officers.

The militia and other forces at Port Antonio and Morant Bay or elsewhere which Brigadier Nelson considers are not required, to be at once released from further duty, and the arms to be delivered up and taken charge of by the military, for the care and cleaning of which the Colonial Government will pay whatever the military authorities may recommend.

The arrangements with regard to the hospital at Morant Bay, proposed by Brigadier Nelson, to be carried out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington.

Sir, *King's House, November* 15, 1865.

IN the absence of his Excellency the General Commanding in Jamaica, I beg to acquaint you that it has this day been decided by the Governor in Executive Committee that as the rebellion is put down, and various arrangements have been made by the disposition of the naval and military powers for the general protection of the Colony, the

time has arrived when the active services of the volunteers and special volunteers may be dispensed with.

I have, therefore, to request that you will be good enough to issue an order to the Kingston volunteers, special or otherwise, dismissing them to their homes and ordinary occupations from and after Saturday the 18th instant.

At the same time I shall be obliged by your conveying to them the very grateful thanks of the Government for the ready, prompt, and zealous manner in which they came forward to protect the country at a time of great difficulty and danger, and for the able and energetic manner in which they have discharged the harassing and arduous duties which have devolved upon them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 13 in No. 46.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency of my return in Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" yesterday morning from an inspection of the military posts round the Island of Jamaica, as per margin.*

When Lieutenant-Colonel Mann, commanding Royal Engineers, and Deputy Inspector-General Bent send me their reports I will be able to furnish your Excellency with a detail of repairs required in some of the barracks and buildings if troops are to be maintained in the detachments visited by me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 14 in No. 46.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, informing me that you had returned from an inspection of the military posts round the island, and state that I await the reports indicated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 47.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 14.)

(No. 307.)

Sir, *King's House, November* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a correspondence which I have had with General O'Connor, relative to the retention of certain pensioners in the pay of the colony, now that the immediate occasion of their enrolment has passed away.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Morant Bay, Port Antonio, Port Maria, Falmouth, Maroon Town, Montego Bay, Lucea, Savanna la Mar, Black River.

Inclosure 1 in No. 47.

Governor Eyre to Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington.

Sir, *King's House, November* 17, 1865.

IT having been deemed expedient at a meeting of the Executive Committee, to dispense with the services of the pensioners called together during the recent emergency, I have to request that you will cause them to be dismissed from further service on and after Tuesday the 21st instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 47.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 20, 1865.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, conveying orders for the pensioners to be dismissed from service on the 21st instant, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the paucity of the regular forces at my disposal renders it necessary for 100 pensioners to be retained in order to furnish the duties of the garrison, unless it be deemed more expedient to withdraw that number of men from their present detached posts in the island.

All in excess of the 100 shall be relieved from further duty; this number I shall retain pending the reply of your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 3 in No. 47.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, November* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date pointing out that in consequence of the paucity of regular forces at your disposal, it is necessary to keep the pensioners in order to furnish the duties of the garrison, unless I deem it more expedient to withdraw that number of men from their present detached posts in the island.

I certainly do not consider it either desirable or safe to withdraw troops at present from any of the posts indicated in my letter of the 27th October, 1865; but I think that any guard at the penitentiary, if still kept there, or any other additional guards established elsewhere since the outbreak to meet purely Colonial requirements, may now be withdrawn.

Bearing in mind that the eleven stations at which I requested troops might be stationed only involved 550 men, or supposing an additional station to be formed between Savanna-la-Mar and Montego Bay, as suggested in my letter of 6th November, 1865, only 600 would be required; and that the arrivals from Barbadoes and Nassau considerably exceed this number, there would still remain in the colony, exclusive of the of the twelve outposts asked for, the full ordinary strength of the Jamaica garrison for ordinary duties.

Considering the very enormous expense to which the colony has been and still is being subject in consequence of the outbreak, it is very desirable that if possible it should be relieved from the additional burthen of providing for 100 pensioners now that everything has resumed its ordinary routine.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 47.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 21, 1865.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of this day's date, having reference to the retention of 100 pensioners, which in a letter dated the 20th instant I stated as needed for the carrying out of duties at this garrison, I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that, fully alive as I am to the expenditure incurred, and likely to be incurred, in consequence of the late rebellion, I should not have thought of burdening the Colony with additional expenses in support of the regular forces under my command, had not such been indispensable. Sentries in increased numbers have been rendered necessary, and to preserve the health of the troops I have one of two alternatives,—to bring in a detachment from an outpost, or to ask at your hands aid, in the shape of the 100 pensioners alluded to in mine of the 20th instant.

I do not deem it probable that your Excellency would require a minute detail of the state of the troops in garrison, and I therefore refrain from inclosing such a document.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 48.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 30.)

(No. 313.) (Answered No. 12, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of "An Act to alter and amend the political constitution of this island," together with the Island Secretary's summary thereof and the Attorney-General's opinion thereon.

2. It is with very great satisfaction that I forward this enactment. The experience of very many years past has proved beyond all doubt that the existing form of Constitution is unsuited to the changed circumstances of the colony, and has become unworkable under that change. The useful administration of the Government has become next to impossible, and a state of things has been gradually growing up which, if continued, must eventually lead to anarchy, confusion, and general ruin.

3. The absence of a large proportion of the proprietary body and the cessation of any influx of persons from Europe of high standing and character, possessing capital and energy, have led to such a diminution of the number of resident gentlemen, qualified to constitute the two Chambers of a Legislature requiring sixty-four members, that the representative branch of it has long since in a great measure fallen into the hands of persons utterly incompetent for and unfit to exercise with advantage to the public interests the important duties and responsibilities attaching to a House of Assembly. Gross personalities, private considerations, or partisan influences have almost entirely superseded and taken the place of public duty and conscientious action. The result has necessarily been an obstruction to public business, uncertainty and inconsistency of legislation, and an inability on the part of the Government to secure the enactment of measures required to suit the changed condition of the colony, or to promote the general interests and welfare. This state of things has again led to a want of confidence in England, and capitalists decline to have monetary transactions with any colony where no dependence can be placed upon an intelligent, consistent, and continuous course of legislation.

4. It is with a view of remedying this state of things and securing a strong Government that the law which I now transmit has been passed, and although it may be imperfect and defective in some respects, it will, I trust, be found to comprise all the elements essential to removing the existing cumbrous and unworkable institutions and substituting in their place a machinery which will be at once simple and suitable.

5. The Act begins by abolishing the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly.

It then substitutes in the place thereof a single Legislative Chamber, to consist of only twenty-four members, thus at once removing forty from the number of sixty-four now required to constitute the two branches.

Out of the twenty-four members of which the single Chamber is to consist, one half are to be elected by the counties and city of Kingston and one-half to be nominated by Her Majesty.

With the exception of one official to be nominated, no other person holding any office of emolument can be either nominated or elected.

The Chamber is to exist for seven years unless previously dissolved, the power of dissolving at any time vesting in the Governor.

The nominated Members are only appointed for the period during which the Chamber is in existence. Whenever it expires or is dissolved they cease to be members, and the Crown on the one hand, and the electors on the other, proceed to constitute a new Chamber. This feature was intended as in some degree to compensate for the absence of official members.

The Chamber is to sit under a President to be elected by itself, who is to have a salary of 600*l.* per annum.

Such are the general features of the new Legislature intended to be created in the place of the existing Legislative Council and House of Assembly.

6. But there is another feature in the Act now sent not strictly incidental to a reconstruction of the Legislature.

. It provides that Her Majesty may appoint one Commissioner from Great Britain or Ireland, at a salary of 3,000*l.* per annum. to act in conjunction with a member of the Legislative Chamber, to be appointed by the Governor, at a salary of 800*l.*, as an Executive Committee.

7. Failing any action being taken by Her Majesty upon this clause, the present Executive Committee, consisting of three members, remains in office until the construction of the new Legislative Chamber, after which the Governor is to appoint two members from that body to be an Executive Committee until such time as the Chamber shall itself make some other provision for the administrative arrangements of the Government, and the Government is bound to bring this subject under their consideration within one week of the first meeting of the Chamber.

8. These clauses were admitted into the Bill under a compromise entered into for the purpose of securing its passage through the Assembly, but they were expressly made permissive only, and not an essential or imperative part of the measure, because a large number of the members of Assembly who coincided in the rest of the Bill was strongly opposed to the arrangement sought to be called into existence by the clauses referred to.

9. The other portions of the Act are of comparatively lesser importance, though the qualification of the electors has been raised with a view to diminishing the agitation kept up at elections by political demagogues amongst a class of the people who, being incompetent to judge for themselves, are easily misled by designing agitators, and who are consequently unfitted to enjoy the privilege of the elective franchise.

10. Had it been possible for me to have selected a form of Constitution which I considered best adapted to the present condition of Jamaica, I should certainly have chosen a purely nominee Council, because I think it would have been a great advantage to have avoided all agitation whatever, and which must to a greater or less extent take place whenever a general appeal is made to the constituency of the country.

11. At a juncture like the present, and considering the state of feeling which already exists amongst the peasantry in many parishes, it would have been especially desirable to shut out all opening for agitation, and more particularly so as it has become necessary, by raising the qualifications of voters, to disfranchise a considerable number of persons who, under the existing law, now possess votes.

12. But the question became one of practicability, and I felt satisfied from the first that a wholly nominee Council could not be carried in the Assembly. The history of the present measure has proved that I was correct in my supposition.

13. Acting upon my opinion, the Executive Committee concurred in preparing a Bill for the establishment of a partly nominated and partly elective Chamber. This Bill was drawn up by the Chief Justice, and comprised substantially the main features of the Act actually passed (excepting the clauses relating to the appointment of a Commissioner from England). But on the day before the Legislature met for the dispatch of business, when the members began to arrive from the country, and opinions could be interchanged with them, the Executive Committee came to the conclusion that a majority were in favour of a nominee Council. At the eleventh hour, therefore, that is, the very day that the House was to meet, a Bill was prepared to give effect to the supposed general feeling.

This Bill was printed and laid on the table of the Assembly.

14. It soon, however, became apparent that some misapprehension had arisen with regard to the views of certain parties, and that, instead of there being a large majority in favour of a nominee Council, the House was divided into three sections: one desiring the present form of constitution to remain as it is, another wishing for a nominee Council and the third requiring a single Chamber, consisting of two-thirds elected, and one-third nominated members.

15. With such widely-differing views it seemed difficult to arrive at any solution of the question at all; but by getting the leading members of the two latter parties to meet me in conference on the subject, mutual concessions were made, and a basis agreed upon, which is embodied in the present Act.

16. The great desire on the part of both was to get rid of the House of Assembly; and, in order to organize a party sufficiently powerful to carry a measure having this object in view, it became necessary for each section to give up some portion of the details which it desired, as well as to accept some which it disapproved.

17. There were also strong personal feelings at work antagonistic to the members of the present Executive Committee on the part of some of the gentlemen who were willing to co-operate in abolishing the Assembly, but who declined to be instrumental in confirming the present Executive Committee in their places. To these feelings the 7th and 8th clauses are in no small degree due.

18. Clause 7 originally enabled Her Majesty to appoint two Commissioners at 2,000*l.* each. The alteration to one at 3,000*l.* was made at the eleventh hour, when the Bill was brought up for a third reading; and as the subsequent clause (8) was not altered correspondingly, there is some incongruity between the two, and a want of clearness.

19. No further attempt was made to rectify this defect, because on every occasion when an opportunity offered every possible means was taken in the House to propose amendments calculated to destroy the efficiency of the measure, or to defeat it altogether.

20. Another ambiguity exists with regard to clauses 3, 7, and 33. It was intended by the admission of one office holder in clause 3, to provide a seat for the Attorney-General, and when clause 7 was added, it was no doubt intended to provide a seat for a second office-holder should a Commissioner be sent from England.

But reading all the three clauses named in connection with each other, it would seem doubtful whether the Act would admit of the evident intention of the Legislature being carried out.

21. For my own part I regard the proposal that a Commissioner should be sent out from England at a salary of 3,000*l.* as resting upon no good or solid reasons, whilst I believe there are substantial objections to its being acted upon.

22. It would create an *imperium in imperio* by the appointment of an officer with emoluments larger than those of the Governor, considering the relative claims entailed by position upon each, but over whom the Governor could have no direct control. The officer could have no knowledge of the country or its requirements, or of the means best adapted for managing its financial arrangements, or for carrying on the internal administration; and all sorts of crude or inappropriate proposals might be anticipated with regard to points requiring great local knowledge and practical experience to enable any one to arrive at a right judgment with regard to them. He would have no certainty of carrying influence with the Legislative Chamber, whilst, if he failed to secure support there, the Governor would be unable to remove him and nominate some one else who could command the necessary confidence and influence. He would entail upon the Colony a largely increased and unnecessary expenditure at a time when it is little able to afford it, since a local Member of the Legislative Chamber, with a salary of 800*l.*, would be a much more useful assistant to the Governor than a stranger from Great Britain with a salary of 3,000*l.* Great jealousy would exist on the part of the colonists in reference to the highest and best paid political appointment being filled up from home; it would be regarded as a standing grievance: for although this position may seem inconsistent with the Act of the two branches of the existing Legislature themselves creating the appointment in this very form, and apparently for this very purpose, it must not be forgotten that a large proportion of the Members of Assembly, and nearly the entire Council, dissent from the arrangement, and only passed the Act with this provision in it, because under no other condition could the support of a sufficient number of Members in the House of Assembly be secured to get the Act at all.

23. I have already stated that the arrangement under which the sections of the House coalesced to form a party strong enough to carry a measure for abolishing the Assembly, was a compromise in which many details were admitted that were disapproved by either one section or the other. But clauses 7 and 8 were so very distasteful to a large number of them who joined in this compromise, that it was insisted upon that they should not be imperative, but only permissive and contingent; and at the Conference at which it was agreed to admit clause 7, I most distinctly enunciated to the parties requiring its introduction, that I considered it only right and fair to tell them, that whilst willing that

the clause should form a part of the Bill, I had a very strong conviction that Her Majesty's Government would never act upon it.

24. Whilst thus expressing my own opinion, I at the same time promised to forward home for consideration any statement in support of the clause which might be sent to me for the purpose by the gentlemen favourable to it; and since the Bill was moved up from the House to the Council, I have again called upon them in writing to furnish such statement (if they wish to make any) in time to accompany this despatch.

25. Having succeeded in getting the new Constitution Bill safely through the Assembly, and carried up to the Legislative Council, it was evident that considerable difficulty might occur with regard to its passage through the latter Body, from the strong objections entertained by nearly the entire Body with regard to some of the details of the Bill, but more especially in reference to that part of it which makes the tenure of seats by the nominated members only temporary, and subject to the same termination by dissolution or expiring of the Chamber which necessarily attaches to the tenure of seats by the elected members.

26. Under ordinary circumstances this difficulty might have seriously delayed, if not have caused the absolute loss of the measure; but the members of the Legislative Council, from a view of the immense importance of securing a measure which would abolish the House of Assembly, and in deference to my earnest desire that the Bill should be accepted as it is with all its imperfections, rather than risk its further delay or loss by sending it back to the Assembly for amendments, have generously waived all considerations affecting themselves, and have nobly come forward in the most patriotic spirit to aid the Government in securing this great and most important measure. I cannot sufficiently express my appreciation of the good feeling and desire to aid the Government evinced by these gentlemen; but the Legislative Council of Jamaica has always been most loyal and anxious to promote the general welfare.

27. In the present instance they have done so at the sacrifice of a point upon which they might naturally be supposed to be peculiarly sensitive—the change of tenure from life appointments as held by the present Council to quasi temporary holdings by the nominees who will represent the Council in the new Chamber. It is not, therefore, with full approval of the measure upon this and some other points, but as a measure of expediency, that the Council has accepted the Bill, and refrained from pressing that it might be amended.

28. I do not share in their feeling that the temporary holding is in any way derogatory to the proper independence of the nominees, nor do I see how their tenure of office could appropriately have been made different from that of the elected members who sit in the same Chamber, and on equal terms in all respects with themselves; but I go further and consider that as a matter of public policy it is undesirable that one half of a Legislative Chamber should be so constituted that under no possible circumstances could any change be made in its composition, whilst the other half must, at least, once every seven years, and might oftener, be varied. Practically I imagine the nominee members of the new Chamber would, as a matter of course, be re-appointed, unless in some rare instances where very grave reasons existed for a contrary course.

29. Another point to which my attention has been called, is that the third clause might prevent any one of the nominated members being chosen as President. This was certainly never contemplated. The object of the third clause was to provide for the admission of the Attorney-General, but exclude all other holders of office. It was not intended to apply to the selection of a President, for which special provision was subsequently made in the Act itself.

30. The inconsistencies and imperfections in the Bill arise chiefly from the hurried manner in which some clauses were prepared or amended, from the constant efforts made to mar or defeat the measure by a few interested individuals, and from the impossibility of sending it back for amendment without risking its entire loss.

Probably the best course would be to obtain the opinion of the Crown Law Officers in England, whether in the event of the Crown nominating an office holder (as provided) upon the first Constitution of the Chamber, a nominee could subsequently be elected President; if not it would undoubtedly be a great hardship, and in this case I think it would be politic not to nominate any office holder at all, but after the meeting of the Chamber get the Bill amended in this respect, and afterwards put the Attorney-General in upon the occurrence of the first vacancy.

31. I would strongly advise that under no circumstance whatever should the Act be referred back to the present Legislature for amendment, but that it should be accepted as it is, and if necessary any required improvements be made by the new Chamber when

it meets. If it can be worked without making any changes at all, and I don't see why it should not, I am of opinion that this course would be far preferable to re-opening the question in any shape.

One singular fact attending the passage of this measure through the Legislature, is that not a single petition against it has been addressed to either branch.

In the Assembly the division in favour of the second reading showed 26 to 7, and at the third reading 22 to 4. In the Council the division in favour of the second reading was 10 to 1, and the same at the third reading.

As several offices will be abolished by the coming into operation of the new Act, a Bill is now before the Assembly to compensate such officers as, losing their appointments under the existing Constitution, do not obtain any corresponding office under the new measure.

I inclose extracts from the existing Acts relating to the qualification of members and of voters, which, by comparison with the enactments in the new Constitution Act, will show the alterations made.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Since this despatch was written the Attorney-General's opinion on the Act has reached me, and I find from it that the objection stated in paragraph 29 does not exist, and that consequently on this point there would be no necessity for a reference to the Law Officers of the Crown as suggested in paragraph 30.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island.

WHEREAS it is necessary to alter the present political Constitution of this Island: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

First. That from and after the coming into operation of this Act, the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, and all and every the functions and privileges of those two bodies respectively, shall cease and determine absolutely.

Second. That in the place and stead of the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, there shall be constituted and established one Chamber, to be called the Legislative Chamber.

Third. That such Legislative Chamber shall consist of twenty-four Members, one-half of whom shall be nominated and appointed by Her Majesty, and of such half not more than one shall be the holder of any office of emolument, and whose seat in such Chamber shall, upon his ceasing to hold such office of emolument, *ipso facto* become vacant; and the other half of such Legislative Chamber shall consist of members elected in this Island, in the following proportions, that is to say:—four for the county of Cornwall, four for the county of Middlesex, three for the county of Surrey, exclusive of the city of Kingston; and one for the city of Kingston; but no person holding any office of emolument in this Island, other than members of the Executive Committee, shall be eligible for election as any such member: And within this Island and its Dependencies, such Legislative Chamber shall have, use, exercise, and enjoy the same powers, privileges, rights, and immunities as the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, or either of them, have heretofore at any time legally used, exercised, and enjoyed, together with such other rights, privileges, and immunities as are by this Act conferred.

Fourth. That it shall be lawful for Her Majesty to authorize the Governor, in the event of any vacancy arising from time to time in the number of members so nominated, to summon, in Her Majesty's name, such other person qualified as herein mentioned, as Her Majesty shall approve, to fill the vacancy so arising in such Legislative Chamber. And it shall be lawful for the Governor, in the event of any vacancy in the number of the members so elected, forthwith, on Message from the Legislative Chamber to that effect, to issue a writ for the election of any person qualified as hereinafter mentioned, to fill such vacancy: Provided, that at any time within six months from the reduction of the nnmber of the Legislative Chamber below the number of twenty-four, either by death or disqualification under this Act, it shall be lawful for the continuing members of the said Chamber to exercise all the powers existing in them. And every

person who shall be so summoned or elected shall, by virtue of such summons or election, become a Member of the Legislative Chamber: Provided, that no person shall be appointed or elected to the Legislative Chamber who shall not be of the full age of twenty-one years, and a natural-born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty, nor unless (save in regard to the office-holding member) he shall be possessed, in his own right, or in his wife's right, of freehold estate in this Island, producing to him a clear annual income of three hundred pounds, or shall possess a clear income, derivable from salary, business, or profession, of not less than five hundred pounds per annum, or shall pay taxes to the extent of thirty pounds per annum; and that no person shall be qualified to be or remain a member of the Legislative Chamber who shall have a judgment entered of record against him in the office of the Supreme Court of this Island, and which shall remain unsatisfied.

Fifth. That the members of the Legislative Chamber shall not have any immunity from arrest for debt or other civil process.

Sixth. That nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect or take away any of the powers or authorities of the Privy Council, as a Privy Council, or Advising Council to the Governor, now exercised, enjoyed, and holden by such Privy Council, nor to prevent Her Majesty from nominating and appointing such persons as to her shall seem fit, nor to limit the power of Her Majesty to select, appoint, or remove any of such Privy Councillors, as to Her Majesty shall seem meet.

Executive Commissioners or Committee.

Seventh. That it may be lawful for Her Majesty to appoint from time to time, from Great Britain or Ireland, to the said Legislative Chamber, as a member thereof, at a salary not exceeding three thousand pounds sterling per annum, any fit and proper person, being of administrative and financial experience and ability, for the assistance of the Governor in the general administration of the finances of this island, and otherwise, and to perform the duties which are now by law imposed upon the Executive Committee: Provided, that the number of the said Legislative Chamber shall never exceed twenty-four in the whole.

Eighth. That in the event of Her Majesty not appointing more than one Commissioner, it shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint one member of the Legislative Chamber to be associated with such Commissioner as an Executive Committee, which latter member shall receive eight hundred pounds per annum, as fixed by the seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine; or, in the event of Her Majesty not appointing any Commissioner at all, it shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint two members of the Legislative Chamber (not being the official member) to be an Executive Committee, with emoluments as fixed by seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine; and such Committee shall have the same powers, duties, and responsibilities towards the Governor and the new Legislative Chamber, as are provided for under the Act for the better government of the island (seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine), until the meeting of the new Legislative Chamber, and until some other provision shall be made by such Chamber in lieu thereof: Provided always, that it shall be imperative upon the Governor to submit this question to their consideration within one week after the first meeting of the new Legislative Chamber.

Ninth. That in case of the absence from this island, or of the death of any such person so appointed from Great Britain or Ireland, by Her Majesty, it may be lawful for the Governor to appoint some fit and proper person from amongst the members of the Legislative Chamber to discharge the duties of such person during such absence or vacancy, until such person shall have returned to this island, or until the vacancy shall have been filled up by Her Majesty.

Tenth. That the said Legislative Chamber shall meet and sit for the despatch of business at least once in every year, and shall be summoned in the manner heretofore adopted in calling the Legislature; but it shall be lawful for the Governor to call such Chamber together at any time occasion shall require; and such Legislative Chamber shall have power to adjourn from time to time, but not for any longer period than one fortnight, except by permission of the Governor.

Eleventh. That no member of the Legislative Chamber shall be permitted to sit or vote therein until he shall have taken and subscribed the following oath or affirmation before the Governor, or some other person or persons authorized by him to administer the same:—

"I, A. B., do solemnly and sincerely swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, as lawful Sovereign of the United

Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of this Island; and that I will defend her to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatever which shall be made against her person, crown, and dignity; and that I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts which I shall know to be against her, or any of them; and all this I do swear (or affirm), without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation: And I do further swear (or affirm) that I am qualified by (state qualification) being one of the qualifications required by an Act entitled 'An Act' (title of this Act); (and in the case of an elected member) and I do swear (or affirm) that I obtained my election *bonâ fide*, and without improper influences used either by myself or by any other person with my assent or concurrence."

Twelfth. Each member shall, at the annual meeting of the Chamber, before taking his seat and voting thereat, be sworn to the qualification which he shall then possess.

Dissolution.

Thirteenth. That at the expiration of seven years after the first meeting of such Legislative Chamber, and on the expiration of every succeeding seven years, the nominated and elected members of such Chamber shall absolutely cease to hold their seats as such nominated and elected members; and it shall be lawful for the Governor, at any time he thinks fit, to dissolve such Chamber in like manner as he may now dissolve the House of Assembly; and upon the expiration of every such period of seven years as aforesaid, or upon any such dissolution as aforesaid, within one month thereafter respectively, the Governor shall, and he is hereby required to issue writs for the election of persons qualified, as by this Act is required, to serve in the said Legislative Chamber; and the Governor shall in like manner, and within the period of two weeks after the return of such elections as aforesaid, nominate and appoint twelve persons, qualified as hereinbefore provided, as members of the said Legislative Chamber, for and on behalf of Her Majesty.

Fourteenth. That until such elections have taken place, and nominations have been made on such lapse of seven years, or on such dissolution, no members shall exercise any functions as members of such Legislative Chamber.

Fifteenth. That it shall be lawful for the Legislative Chamber to elect a member of the said Legislative Chamber to be President thereof, and in like manner, from time to time, as and when any vacancy shall arise, by death or otherwise, to appoint another member of the Legislative Chamber to be President in lieu and stead of the person ceasing to be President; and the President for the time being shall be entitled to receive from the public Treasury a salary at and after the rate of six hundred pounds per annum; and such President shall have the right of speaking upon any question which may arise before the Chamber, or any Committee thereof, but shall not have the right of voting, except where, upon a division, the numbers shall be equal, when the President shall give the casting vote.

Absence or Death.

Sixteenth. That if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall die during a recess, his seat shall be declared vacant; or if any such member shall be absent during the session or sessions of any one particular year without leave of absence from the Legislative Chamber, such member's seat may be vacated, and the Governor shall forthwith appoint a person to fill such vacancy, or issue a writ of election, as the case may require.

Disqualification of Members.

Seventeenth. That if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall not be, or shall cease to be, qualified as herein provided, or shall become bankrupt, or shall be declared an insolvent, or shall become or shall have been a public defaulter, or shall have been or shall be convicted of felony, or of any infamous crime, or, in case of an elected member, shall have dishonestly, and by means of improper influences, by himself or by any other person, with his assent or concurrence, obtained his seat as such member, such seat in such Chamber shall, in any of such cases, become vacant; and any question arising in respect of any such matter, or any cause of disqualification, shall be inquired of by the Legislative Chamber, and be by them heard and determined: Provided that, if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall, for two consecutive years, cease or omit to give his attendance in the said Legislative Chamber, his seat therein shall thereby become vacant, notwithstanding any permission or leave of absence which may have been given to such member.

Voting Clauses.

Eighteenth. That every male person of the age of twenty-one years, and who is not affected by any legal incapacity, or convicted of any felony or offence in this Act mentioned, shall be entitled to vote for the election of members of the Legislative Chamber, provided he possesses one or other of the following qualifications, namely:

1st. Any freehold land, as owner or trustee in actual possession, or cestuique trust in actual possession, or mortgagee in possession, or in actual possession in right of his wife, the clear annual value of which shall not be less than thirty pounds, and in respect of which land, all public and parochial taxes then due have been paid in full.

2nd. Or who shall be in receipt of a yearly salary of not less than one hundred pounds, and on whose claim to vote there shall be impressed a stamp of twenty shillings.

3rd. Or who shall have paid, on or before the thirtieth September preceding his claim to vote, taxes to the amount of five pounds, on property *bonâ fide* his own, and which shall have been in his possession at least three months before such payment, and which payment of five pounds shall be vouched by the certificate of the collector of dues to that effect.

4th. Or export duties to the like amount on produce, the growth and manufacture of his own estate or plantation, the payment of which amount of duties shall be vouched by the declaration of export and certificates of the officer or officers of Customs at the port or ports from which the produce shall have been exported, which duties for the purposes of this Act shall be deemed to be taxes.

Nineteenth. That in respect to the qualification to vote on payment of taxes, no claim to vote shall in any case be required to be registered by the claimant to vote, but that it shall be the duty of the collector of dues of each parish, within twenty days after the proclamation of this Act, to make out, for elections for the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, a list of all persons who shall have paid taxes on the thirtieth September last, to the extent of five pounds and upwards, and in respect to those who, having paid one moiety on or before thirtieth September last, and shall have paid the other moiety on or before the tenth February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, both moieties amounting to five pounds or upwards; and to subscribe and swear to the truth of such list as aforesaid in duplicate, one of which duplicate lists shall be delivered to the clerk of the vestry by such collector of dues, and the other affixed to the door of the Court-house of the parish, within the aforesaid twenty days, by the collector of dues.

Twentieth. It shall be the duty of the collector of dues of each parish, on the first November, or within five days thereafter, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, for elections in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and on the first day of November, or within five days thereafter, in every subsequent year respectively, to make out an alphabetical list, in duplicate, of all persons who have paid into his office taxes to the extent of five pounds or upwards, up to the preceding thirtieth September, for the year immediately preceding the thirtieth September in each year; and it shall also be the duty of such collector of dues, on the first November, or within five days thereafter, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in every subsequent year, to subscribe and swear to the truth of such lists in duplicate respectively, and to deliver one of such duplicates so subscribed and sworn to as aforesaid to the clerk of the vestry, and to affix the other of such lists to the door of the Court-house of the parish in each such year respectively, within such space of five days.

Twenty-first. That no person shall be entitled to vote on the qualification of freehold or salary for elections in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, or for elections in any subsequent year, unless he shall, within twenty days after the proclamation of this Act, in the case of elections in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, or prior to the first November in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, for elections in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven, and prior to the first of November in every subsequent year, have, by himself or his attorney, in the case of his absence from the island, duly registered his claim to vote for elections in any such year respectively; that is to say, on freehold by a claim without any stamp, and on salary with an impressed stamp of twenty shillings, subscribed and sworn or affirmed to by him in the form hereunto annexed.

Twenty-second. That it shall be the duty of the clerk of the vestry, within twenty days after the proclamation of this Act, and on the first November, or within seven days thereafter, in each year, after the passing of this Act, to make out an alphabetical list in duplicate of all persons who shall, within such period of twenty days as aforesaid, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, or prior to the first November, in the year

one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in each subsequent year, have duly registered in his office claims to vote on freehold or salary, and also to subscribe and swear to the truth of such lists.

Twenty-third. That it shall be the duty of the clerk of the vestry, so soon as he shall receive from the collector of dues any such duplicate list as aforesaid, forthwith to transfer to and insert in a register of voters of the parish, to be kept by him for elections in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and for each subsequent year, the name of every person mentioned in such list as a voter on taxes, and forthwith also, thereupon, to transfer to and insert in the said register of voters of the parish for the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and for each subsequent year respectively, the names of every person mentioned in the list prepared by the said clerk of the vestry, as a voter on freehold or salary, and such register for the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and each subsequent year, shall be the guide of the returning officer at elections, which register shall be in duplicate, subscribed and sworn to by such clerk of the vestry; and one of such duplicate lists shall forthwith be affixed to the door of the Court-house of the parish, and the other shall be kept by him in his office, and open to inspection.

Twenty-fourth. That no person shall be entitled to vote, in respect of more than one of such qualifications, as by this Act provided, in any county, or in Kingston; nor shall any person be entitled to vote at any election for members for the county of Cornwall, unless he shall be duly registered as a voter in some parish of the county of Cornwall; or for the county of Middlesex, unless he shall be duly registered as a voter in some parish of the county of Middlesex; or for the county of Surry, unless he shall be duly registered as a voter in some parish of the county of Surry, exclusively of Kingston; or for Kingston, unless he shall be duly registered as a voter in Kingston.

Twenty-fifth. That any voter at the time of recording his vote may be sworn by the returning officer, and required to state, on oath, whether the property on which he claims to vote was *bonâ fide* acquired by him, or was fictitiously transferred to him; and if it shall appear thereafter that such property was fictitiously transferred, and was not *bonâ fide* acquired, such property shall be deemed forfeited to the crown.

Writs of Election.

Twenty-sixth. That upon the coming into operation of this Act, the Governor may and shall cause writs to issue in the usual form, directed to the Provost Marshal-General for the election of four good and lawful men to represent each of the counties of Cornwall and Middlesex, and also for the election of three good and lawful men to represent the county of Surry, other than and exclusive of the city and parish of Kingston; and also for the election of one good and lawful man to represent the city and parish of Kingston, and to serve as Members of the Legislative Chamber: Provided, That there shall be in every instance twenty-one days between the *teste* and the return of such several writs. And the Governor shall appoint and alter and vary the several towns and other places in which polling places shall be held and the votes taken; and the Governor shall also appoint some central or other place where the list of voters taken at each polling-place may be opened as hereinafter provided: Provided, That due notice shall be given in the "Gazette by Authority," at least fourteen days before such election shall take place, of the times and of the several places appointed for taking the votes and holding the elections; and of the time and place at which the several lists of voters are to be opened, and notices of the several places and times of taking the elections shall be printed and distributed and posted upon or near to the doors of each church and court-house, and on such other places as the police shall be directed to post or put up the same at least five days before each election.

Twenty-seventh. That all elections under this Act shall commence between the hours of nine and ten in the morning, and close at four in the afternoon of the same day, at which time the poll or list of voters shall be at each polling place sealed up in the presence of not less than three electors, who, with the returning officer, shall respectively affix their signature and seal to such return; and the same shall, on the following or other day to be appointed, be produced by such returning officer at the central or other place appointed for that purpose; and the Provost-Marshal, or his lawful deputy, being then and there present, and the said several polls or list of voters being there also present, the same shall be opened, and the lists cast up in the presence of the said Provost-Marshal or his lawful deputy, and of not less than three electors; and the list of voters of the city and parish of Kingston shall in like manner be attested and sealed after the poll shall have been taken, and in like manner produced on the following or other day to be

appointed at the Court-house in the said city and parish of Kingston; and the Provost-Marshal or his lawful deputy, being then present at such central or other place, shall thereupon declare who has been duly elected, and make return accordingly, in the form and manner heretofore adopted in the return of Members of Assembly, or as near thereto as the case will admit.

Perjury.

Twenty-eighth. Any person making a wilfully false statement of any particular or in any respect in any oath or declaration or affirmation by this Act required to be made, or giving a wilfully false answer in any respect to any question by this Act authorised to be asked, and required to be answered on oath or declaration or affirmation, shall be liable to be punished on conviction, with all the pains and penalties with which wilful perjury is by law made punishable.

Twenty-ninth. That the fourth section of the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, so much of the ninth section thereof as relates to the stamp of ten shillings, and the twenty-eighth Victoria, chapter two, and all other sections or parts of sections in the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, as are inconsistent with or repugnant to the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed.

Thirtieth. That from and after this Act shall come into operation, so much of the seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine, as is repugnant to or is inconsistent with this Act shall be and stand repealed.

Thirty-first. That the Clerk and the Librarian to the Legislative Council, and the Clerk and the Librarian to the House of Assembly, do, each of them severally, upon the demand in writing of the President of the Legislative Chamber, deliver up to such person or persons as the said President shall appoint to receive the same, all the library and other books, and books of account, papers, vouchers, documents, plats, and all other writings belonging or appertaining to their offices respectively, or which shall have come to their hands while in the execution of their duties as such Clerks and Librarians respectively, under the penalty of fifty pounds for each and every neglect or refusal so to do, which said penalty shall be recovered summarily before any two or more Justices of the Peace of the parish where such neglect or refusal shall have taken place: And in like manner, and under a like penalty, and in the same way recoverable, the Sergeant-at-Arms to the House of Assembly shall deliver to such person as the President of the Legislative Chamber shall appoint to receive the same, the mace to the House of Assembly belonging.

Thirty-second. That the Clerk and other officers of the new Legislative Chamber shall be selected from the officers of the present Legislative Council and Assembly.

Thirty-third. That the words "office of emolument," as used in this Act, shall be understood to mean any office of emolument held under the Crown of England, or under the Government of this Island, or under the authority of any Act of Parliament of England, or of this Island, or under any parochial or other public body constituted under any Act of this Island.

Thirth-fourth. That no appointments or commissions, and no orders for the payment of money under this Act, shall be liable to the imposition of any stamp duties whatever.

Thirty-fifth. That all penalties and forfeitures under this Act shall be recoverable in a summary manner before any two justices of the peace; and one-third of such penalty and forfeiture shall go to the informer, or the party suing for the same, who shall be a competent witness respectively, and the residue shall go to the Crown towards the support of the Government of this Island.

Thirty-sixth. That this Act shall not come into operation until the same shall have received Her Majesty's Royal assent, and a Proclamation that such assent has been given shall have been made by the Governor; and upon and immediately after such Proclamation, this Act, and every clause and thing therein contained, shall commence and take effect.

No. 1.—*Form for Claim on Freehold.*

Memorandum of the claim of as a voter in the parish of , for the county of , or Kingston, on freehold (state whether a house in any town, plantation, pen, or settlement in the said parish; if a house, state the name of the street in which it is situated; if a plantation, &c., state the name of it or the district or the said parish in which it is situate), acquired by deed or will (deed or will) dated , recorded liber

folio , or by inheritance (stating how). Annual *bonâ fide* value of freho not less than 30*l.* per annum.

I, A. B. (or C. D., Attorney of A. B., now absent from this island) do swear that the above is a true and correct statement of the qualification on which I (or A. B.) claim (or claims) to vote in the said parish of , for the county of , or Kingston, and that the annual *bonâ fide* value of such freehold is not less than 30*l.* per annum.

A. B. or C. D., *Attorney.*

Sworn to before me, this day of , 18 .
E. F., *J.P. or C.V.*

No. 2.—*Form for Claim on Salary.*

Memorandum of the Qualification of A. B. as a voter in the parish of
for the county of , or Kingston.
Annual amount of salary not less than 100*l.* per annum.
Situation (state nature of).
Obtained day of , 18 .
Parish in which employed .
Name of employer or office .
How long employed to date of claim .

I, A. B. (or C. D., Attorney of A. B., now absent from the Island), do swear that the above is a correct statement of the qualification upon which I, A. B. (or C. D.) claim (or claims) to vote in the parish of , for the county of , or Kingston, and that prior to this claim I, or A. B., was in such employment (o office) for the space of months immediately preceding the date of this claim.

A. B. or C. D., *Attorney.*

Sworn to before me, this day of , 18 .
E. F., *J.P., or C.V.*

No. 3.—*Export Declaration.*

I, do declare that
(1) Word "my" to be struck out if Agent declares. (1) my estate or plantation, in the parish of
(2) To be retained if Agent declares. (2), the property of for whom I am
, and that such several articles were shipped on board the , Master, for for exportation from this island.

Declared before me, this day of 18 .

No. 4.—*Certificate of Payment of Export Duties.*

I, Collector or Sub-Collector of Customs, at the port of do hereby certify that* of the parish of on the day of 18 , paid the sum of for export duty under the Act of on as the produce and manufacture of his own (or the) estate or plantation named , in the parish of and belonging to,† and which several articles were cleared outwards as shipped from this port on the day of , 18 , on board the , Master, for .

* Proprietor or Agent.

† The name of the Proprietor to be inserted if the payment was made by Agent.

Given under my hand, this day of , 18 .
Collector or Sub-Collector at the Port of

Passed the Assembly, this 5th day of December, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*
Passed the Legislative Council, this 7th day of December, 1865.
(Signed) SAML. RENNALLS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 7th day of December, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Summary by Mr. Jordon of "Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

THIS Act provides that the functions of the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly shall cease and determine upon its coming into operation, and that in lieu of them there shall be one Chamber, to consist of twenty-four members, one-half nominated by the Crown (only one of whom shall be the holder of an office of emolument), and the other half elected in the Island, in the proportion of four for the county of Cornwall, four for Middlesex, and three for Surry, exclusive of one for Kingston. That no holder of an office of emolument (except members of the Executive Committee) is to be eligible for election. That the Legislative Chamber is to enjoy the same power as has been enjoyed by the Council and Assembly. That the Governor shall fill up any vacancies which may take place in the nominated members, and issue writs for the election of elected members whenever vacancies occur. That upon the reduction of the number of members below twenty-four the Chamber is to continue to exercise all its powers for six months. That the members of it must be of full age, natural born or naturalized subjects of Her Majesty, and possessed, each in his own right, of freehold estate of 300*l.* per annum, or in the receipt of income from salary, business, or profession of 500*l.* per annum, or shall pay taxes to the extent of 30*l.* per annum. That the members of the Council are not to have any immunity from arrest for debt, &c. That the powers of the Privy Council are not to be affected. That a fit person from Great Britain or Ireland may be appointed to assist the Governor in the administration of the finances at a salary of 3,000*l.* per annum. That in the event of such appointment not being made, the Governor may appoint two members of the Chamber to be an Executive Committee; if made, he may appoint one member of the Chamber to act with the Commissioner as such Committee, provision being made in case of the absence of the Commissioner. That the Chamber shall meet once, at least, in each year (but the Governor may call it together at any time), and have power to adjourn from time to time. That the members of it must take an oath, and annually be sworn to their qualifications. That the Chamber must be dissolved at the expiration of seven years, and may be at any other time by the Governor. That it may elect a President, who shall receive a salary of 600*l.* per annum, but shall not vote except when, upon a division, the numbers are equal, when he shall give the casting vote. That upon the death, or absence without leave, of a member, his seat shall be vacated. That members shall be disqualified upon becoming bankrupts, &c. The qualification, &c., of voters for members of the Chamber, and the duties of the Collector of Dues and Clerk of the Vestry, defined. Regulation as to the issuing of writs of election. Punishment for false swearing. Provision as to the Libraries of the Council and the Assembly, and the mace of the Assembly. Officers of the Chamber to be selected from the present officers of the Council and the Assembly. Definition of the words "office of emoluments." Appointments under the Bill exempt from stamp duties. How penalties shall be recovered. The Act not to come into operation until it has received Her Majesty's assent, and been proclaimed.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Island Secretary.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

Opinion by the Attorney-General on "An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

THIS Act on the whole is patch work. Compromises had to be sanctioned by the Local Government in order to effect what was practicable towards the amending a Constitution which experience had shown to be much too democratic for this community.

It is not very easy, therefore, to elicit from various, and seemingly contradictory provisions of the Act, an interpretation which shall be consistent with all of them, and not contradictory of itself.

As to the appointment of Crown nominees, the sections for consideration are 3, 4, 13, and 16.

1. I think by comparison of these sections that the first nomination must be by the Queen herself, and that if Her Majesty do in the first instance include among the twelve nominees the name of a person holding then an office of emolument (Section 33), the authority under Section 7 cannot be exercised until a vacancy occur, and by consequence the number is reduced below twenty-four (see proviso, Section 7).

The appointments under Sections 4, 13, and 16 can be effectually made by a generally delegated authority from the Queen.

2. By Section 3 the one salaried nominee is appointed by the Crown; this provision has no application to the appointment authorised by Sections 8, 9, or 15, and I have already alluded to its bearing on Section 7.

3. The change in the qualification for voters at elections will be best seen by a comparison of 22 Vict., cap. 18, Section 3, with the 18th Section of the present Act.

In reference to this section I may remark that mortgagees in possession are omitted from those qualified to vote, whatever may be their beneficial interest.

They have been, however, practically dealt with as freeholders for all election purposes in Jamaica.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP, *Attorney-General.*

Spanish Town, December 7, 1865.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

A Bill to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island.

(Brought in by Mr. Westmorland.)

WHEREAS in consequence of the altered state of circumstances and society in this Island, it is expedient to make some change in its political Constitution: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

First. That from and after the coming into operation of this Act, the present Legislative Council, and House of Assembly, and all and every the functions and privileges of those two bodies respectively, shall cease and determine absolutely.

Second. That in the place and stead of the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, there shall be constituted and established one single Chamber only, to be called the Legislative Chamber.

Third. That such Legislative Chamber shall consist of [*twenty-one*] members, to be nominated and appointed for life by Her Majesty, of whom not more than [*five*] shall be holders of offices of emolument, whose seats in such Chamber shall, upon their respectively ceasing to hold such offices of emolument, *ipso facto* become vacant; and within this Island and its Dependencies, such Legislative Chamber shall have, use, exercise, and enjoy the same powers, privileges, rights, and immunities as the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, or either of them, have heretofore, at any time, legally used, exercised, and enjoyed, together with such other rights, privileges, and immunities as are by this Act conferred.

Fourth. That it shall be lawful for Her Majesty to authorize the Governor, in the event of any vacancy or vacancies arising from time to time, to summon, in Her Majesty's name, such other person or persons qualified as herein mentioned, as Her Majesty shall think fit, to fill the vacancy or vacancies arising in such Legislative Chamber: Provided, that at any time, within six calendar months from the reduction of the number of the Legislative Chamber below the number of [*twenty-one*], either by death or disqualification under this Act, it shall be lawful for the continuing members of the said Chamber to exercise all the powers existing in them; and every person who shall be so summoned shall, by virtue of such summons, become a Member of the Legislative Chamber: Provided that no person shall be appointed to the Legislative Chamber who shall not be of the full age of twenty-one years, and a natural-born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty, nor unless (save in regard to office-holding members), he shall be possessed in his own right, or in his wife's right, of a freehold estate in this island, producing to him a clear annual income of [*three hundred*] pounds, or shall possess a clear income, derivable from salary, business, or profession, of not less than [*five hundred*] pounds per annum, or shall pay taxes to the extent of [*thirty*] pounds per annum.

Fifth. That nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect or take away any of the powers or authorities of the Privy Council, as a Privy Council, or advising Council to the Governor, now exercised, enjoyed, and holden by such Privy Council, nor to prevent Her Majesty from nominating and appointing such persons as to her shall seem fit, nor to limit the power of Her Majesty to select, appoint, or remove any of such Privy Councillors, as to Her Majesty shall seem meet.

Sixth. That it shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint from amongst the members of the Legislative Chamber who are not holders of offices of emolument, any persons, not

exceeding [*three*] in number, and, from time to time as he shall see fit, to revoke such appointment, and to appoint one or more in the place of the person or persons whose appointment shall be so revoked, to be members of and to form an Executive Committee, for the assistance of the Governor in the general administration of the finances of this Island, and otherwise; and that the duties of such Executive Committee shall be the same in every respect as are now by law imposed upon that body.

Seventh. That the said Legislative Chamber shall meet and sit for the despatch of business at least once in every year, and shall be summoned in the manner heretofore adopted in calling the Legislature; but it shall be lawful for the Governor to call such Chamber together at any time occasion shall require; and such Legislative Chamber shall have power to adjourn from time to time, but not for any longer period than one fortnight, except by permission of the Governor.

Eighth. That no member of the Legislative Chamber shall be permitted to sit or vote therein until he shall have taken and subscribed the following oath or affirmation before the Governor, or some other person or persons authorized by him to administer the same:—

"I, A. B., do solemnly and sincerely swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, as lawful Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of this Island: and that I will defend her to the utmost of my power against all traitorous conspiracies and attempts whatever which shall be made against her person, crown, and dignity; and that I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to Her Majesty, her heirs and successors, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies and attempts which I shall know to be against her, or any of them; and all this I do swear (or affirm), without any equivocation, mental evasion, or secret reservation. And I do further swear or affirm) that I am qualified by (state qualification), being one of the qualifications required by an Act entitled 'An Act' (title of this Act)."

Ninth. That it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, under the Sign Manual, to authorize the Governor, in Her Majesty's name, by an instrument under the broad seal of this Island, to appoint a member of the said Legislative Chamber to be President thereof, and in like manner, from time to time, as and when any vacancy shall arise by death or otherwise, to appoint another member of the Legislative Chamber to be President in lieu and stead of the person ceasing to be President; and the President for the time being shall be entitled to receive from the public treasury a salary at and after the rate of [*eight hundred*] pounds per annum; and such President shall have the right of speaking upon any question which may arise before the Chamber, or any Committee thereof, but shall not have the right of voting, except where, upon a division, the members shall be equal, when the President shall give the casting vote.

Tenth. That if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall die during a recess, or shall be absent during the session or sessions of any one particular year, without leave of absence from Her Majesty, or from the Governor, such member's seat may be vacated, and the Governor may, if he shall see fit, forthwith appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

Eleventh. That if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall cease to be qualified as herein provided, or shall become bankrupt, or shall be declared an insolvent, or take the benefit of any law relating to insolvent debtors, or become a public defaulter, or be convicted of felony or of any infamous crime, his seat in such Chamber shall thereby become vacant; and any question arising in respect of such vacancy shall be referred by the Governor to the said Legislative Chamber, to be by them heard and determined: Provided, that if any member of the Legislative Chamber shall, for two consecutive years, cease or omit to give his attendance in the said Legislative Chamber, his seat therein shall thereby become vacant, notwithstanding any permission or leave of absence which may have been given to such member.

Twelfth. That from and after this Act shall come into operation, so much of the seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine, as is repugnant to or inconsistent with this Act shall be and stand repealed.

Thirteenth. That the Legislative Chamber shall be at liberty to appoint a clerk, and such other officers as shall be considered necessary, who shall be entitled to receive out of the public treasury the sums set after their names, as follows:—

A Clerk, at and after the rate of [*six hundred*] pounds per annum.
Usher of the Black Rod, after the rate of [*three hundred*] pounds per annum.
Chaplain, after the rate of [*sixty*] pounds per annum.
Librarian, after the rate of [*one hundred*] pounds per annum.
Two Clerks, after the rate of [*two hundred and forty*] pounds each per annum.

And there shall be appropriated, for the necessary contingencies of the said Legislative Chamber, at the rate of, per annum [*four hundred and fifty*] pounds.

Fourteenth. That the Clerk and the Librarian to the Legislative Council, and the Clerk and the Librarian to the House of Assembly, do each of them severally, upon the demand, in writing, of the President of the Legislative Chamber, deliver up to such person or persons as the said President shall appoint to receive the same, all the library and other books, and books of account, papers, vouchers, documents, plats, and all other writings belonging or appertaining to their offices respectively, or which shall have come to their hands while in the execution of their duties as such Clerks and Librarians respectively, under the penalty of [*fifty*] pounds for each and every neglect or refusal so to do, which said penalty shall be recovered summarily before any two or more Justices of the Peace of the parish where such neglect or refusal shall have taken place, and in like manner, and under a like penalty, and in the same way recoverable: The Sergeant-at-Arms to the House of Assembly shall deliver to such person as the President of the Legislative Chamber shall appoint to receive the same, the mace to the House of Assembly belonging.

Fifteenth. That the words "office of emoluments," as used in this Act, shall be understood to mean any office of emolument held under the Crown of England, or under the Government of this island, or under the authority of any Act of Parliament of England, or of this island, or under any parochial or other public body constituted under any Act of this island.

Sixteenth. That the word "Governor" shall be understood to mean the Governor, or Lieutenant-Governor, or the person authorized to execute the office and functions of Governor of this island; and that words importing the singular number only shall be understood to include several matters, as well as one matter, and several persons as well as one person, unless there be something in the context repugnant to such construction.

Seventeenth. That no appointments or commissions, and no orders for the payment of money under this Act, shall be liable to the imposition of any stamp duties whatever.

Eighteenth. That this Act shall not come into operation until the same shall have received Her Majesty's Royal Assent, and a Proclamation that such assent has been given shall have been made by the Governor; and upon and immediately after such Proclamation, this Act, and every clause and thing therein contained, shall commence and take effect.

Inclosure 5 in No. 48.

22 Vict., cap. 18.

Qualification of Members of Assembly.

First. No person elected a member of Assembly after the passing of this Act shall sit or vote in the Assembly unless he was, previous to his election, a freeholder in his own or his wife's right, and possessed besides of one of the following qualifications:—

1. A clear annual income, after payment of all just debts, of one hundred and fifty pounds arising from lands held by him in his own right or in right of his wife.

2. A clear annual income as aforesaid, arising partly from lands held by him as aforesaid, and partly from income the produce of any freehold office or any business (after deducting all charges or expenses of such office or business) of two hundred pounds.

3. A clear annual income as aforesaid, arising from any freehold office or any business (after deducting all charges and expenses of such office or business) of three hundred pounds.

4. The payment annually of land-tax, or other tax on houses, tax on horses, mules, asses, neat cattle, breeding stock, and spring carriages, and still and cart licenses, export-duty paid by the produce or any one or more of them to the extent of ten pounds or upwards.

Qualification of Voters.

Fourth. 1. *Freehold.*—Every male person of and above the age of twenty-one years, and not affected by any legal incapacity or convicted of any felony, who shall be registered and entitled to vote on the first day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, in any of the capacities of freeholder, in respect of lands held as owner, trustee, cestuique trust, mortgagor or mortgagee in possession, which lands shall be of the clear

annual value of six pounds, shall from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty, and so long thereafter as he shall continue to possess the same qualification, be entitled to vote on such qualification; the person claiming to be registered as an elector after the first day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, being in the actual possession of lands as owner, trustee, cestuique trust, mortgagor or mortgagee, the clear annual value whereof shall be not less than six pounds per annum.

2. *Rent.*—The person claiming as above being in the receipt in his own right of a rent payable out of lands the clear annual amount of which shall not be less than twenty pounds.

3. *Tenant.*—The person claiming as above being in the occupation of a house as the tenant thereof the annual rental of which paid by him shall be not less than twenty pounds.

4. *Salary.*—The person claiming as above being in the receipt of an annual salary from the public, a parish, a company, a firm, or an individual, of not less than fifty pounds.

5. *Payment of Taxes.*—The person claiming as above paying annually land-tax, registration or other tax on houses, tax on horses, mules, asses, neat cattle, spring carriages, and cart licenses, or any one or more of them, or any other direct tax which may be hereafter imposed, a sum amounting to twenty shillings or upwards.

6. *Money.*—The person claiming as above, and having deposited in a saving or other bank, or having invested in Island securities a sum not less than one hundred pounds, and having a bank deposit receipt or Island certificate in his own name and in his own right for the same, dated at least twelve months prior to the day of election.

Fifth. No person shall be entitled to vote in respect of more than one of the said qualifications in any parish or at any election.

28 Vict., cap. 2.

First. That the Act of the 22 Vict., cap. 18, shall be amended in the respects following:—

1. Each freeholder whose land is of the actual annual value of six pounds, and who shall, on or before the thirtieth day of September preceding the years for which he claims to vote, pay taxes to the extent of twenty shillings per annum, shall be relieved from the payment of the stamp duty of ten shillings, imposed by the 22 Vict., cap. 18, on his claim to vote.

2. Each taxpayer to the extent of thirty shillings and upwards, who shall have paid his taxes on or before the thirtieth day of September in each year, shall be entitled *ipso facto* to be registered as a voter, and to exercise the right of voting at any election in the parish in which such taxes shall have been paid for the then succeeding year, without preferring or tendering any claim to vote under the provisions of the said 22 Vict., cap. 18, and each Collector of dues shall, on the first day of October in each year, or within five days thereafter, make out an alphabetical list in duplicate of all persons who shall have paid into his office taxes to the extent aforesaid up to the preceding thirtieth day of September, and he shall also on the said first day of October, or within five days thereafter, subscribe and swear to the truth of such lists, and shall deliver one of such lists so subscribed and sworn to as aforesaid, to the Clerk of the Vestry of the parish, who shall thereupon transfer to and insert in the register of voters of the parish, the name of every such taxpayer, and the other of such lists shall be affixed to the outer door of the Court-house of each parish.

3. That the claim to vote may be preferred by Attorney or Agent in the absence from the Island of the voter, but the right of vote shall only be exercised in person, and the forms prescribed by the 22 Vict., cap. 18, may be adapted to such case.

No. 49.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(Extract.) *King's House, December 7, 1865.*

IN my despatch No. 313* of even date I had the honour of transmitting an Act amending the Constitution of Jamaica.

There are one or two points connected with this measure which I could not well discuss fully in a general despatch, and I now, therefore, propose to address you in reference to them.

These points are:—

(1.) The exclusion of office-holders (excepting one) from being either elected or nominated.

(2.) The appointment of the nominees only for the duration of the Legislative Chamber and not for life.

(3.) The power given to Her Majesty to appoint two Commissioners from England in the place of the Executive Committee, or one to act with and in conjunction with one other member of the Legislative Chamber, chosen in the Colony to form an Executive Committee.

(4.) The clause inviting the new Legislative Body, if the Queen does not act upon the power granted Her Majesty of sending out a Commissioner or Commissioners, at once to consider and determine what shall be the Administrative machinery by means of which the Governor shall conduct the business at present transacted by the Executive Committee, and making it imperative upon the Governor to bring this question before the Chamber within one week of its first meeting.

It is necessary to premise that there were three parties in the House of Assembly entertaining very different views with regard to the proposal made in my opening Address to abolish the existing Legislative Bodies, and replace them by some less cumbrous and more workable machinery.

These three parties may be considered in general terms as consisting numerically of nearly equal numbers; for the preponderance of any one over either of the other two was very slight.

The first of these parties was anxious to do all in its power to prevent any change whatever being made, or if a change could not be prevented to introduce as large a proportion of the elective element as possible.

A second party, representing the supporters of the Executive Committee, was desirous of having a wholly nominee Council.

The third party (known as the country party), representing the supporters of the previous Executive Committee, and, of course, antagonistic to the present Executive Committee, wished for a mixed Chamber of two-thirds elected and one-third nominated.

I am very thankful to say that in spite of all the difficulties, and although the measure was in the greatest jeopardy more than once, I have been enabled to overcome all obstacles and obtain the support of a large majority of the Assembly to the Act which has been passed.

But in order to obtain this end it was necessary to make compromises and to assent to the introduction of some clauses which I should have thought better left out, though as these latter are chiefly of a permissive and not of an imperative character, they do not in any way interfere with the efficiency or utility of the Act.

The exclusion of office-holders (excepting one) was strongly urged upon me by the country party, and I readily assented to it on condition of their agreeing that the nominee and elective members should be equal instead of one-third to two-thirds as they proposed.

There is also another great advantage and safeguard gained by the exclusion of office-holders, namely, the concession that the nominees should be appointed only for the period for which the Chamber lasts, and not for life as was originally proposed by the country party.

The country party considered that in adopting a change of Constitution which would strengthen the hands of the Government they would be perpetuating in office their rivals, the present Executive Committee, and however much they desired to see the Assembly abolished, they would rather risk the loss of the measure having that object in view than pass it in such a shape as would ensure their permanent retention. To meet this difficulty the clause was inserted, authorising Her Majesty to appoint one or two Commissioners, though I distinctly informed the gentlemen representing the country party tha

* Page 196.

whilst I did not object to the provision being inserted, it was only fair to tell them that I did not believe it would ever be acted upon at home. Still they insisted upon retaining it, as well as upon the subsequent additional proviso, that if Her Majesty's Government did not act upon it, the new Chamber should at once be called upon to decide whether it would retain an Executive Committee as at present constituted, but consisting of only two members instead of three, or whether it would adopt some other plan for carrying on the duties at present attaching to that body.

When stating my own strong opinion that Her Majesty would not act upon the power granted to send one or two Commissioners from England, I at the same time offered to send any statements which might be sent to me for the purpose, explaining the views of those who had inserted the clauses, and the grounds upon which such views were founded.

In my despatch of even date I transmitted the documents sent to me.

I have now to state my own opinion why it would be undesirable to exercise this power:—

1st. If Commissioners are sent out from England, though nominally to assist the Governor, they would probably be in antagonism to him, and create a divided responsibility, resulting almost in an *imperium in imperio*, never desirable or workable.

2ndly. They could have no knowledge of the country or its requirements, or of the means best adapted for managing its financial arrangements, or for carrying on the internal administration. Great local knowledge and practical experience in the country are essential to the formation of a right judgment upon such points.

3rdly. They would have no certainty of carrying influence with the new Legislative Chamber, whilst, if they failed to secure that support which is necessary, the Governor would be unable to change them for other gentlemen who are better able to command it.

4thly. It would entail a largely increased and unnecessary expenditure upon the Colony at a time when it is little able to afford it.

5thly. It would be a perpetual grievance that the highest and best paid officers in the Colony were drawn from the mother country, and not from within the Colony itself.

And lastly. It must be remenbered that although the clause has been carried in the Assembly by a large majority, it has only been so carried by a compromise, effected to prevent the loss of the measure brought forward to abolish the Assembly.

Only a small proportion of those who voted for the clause were in favour of it (namely, the country party, or, rather a portion of that party). The others acquiesced in the insertion of the clauses, because the Bill would otherwise have been rejected, and because they hoped and believed they never would be acted upon at home.

Having thus fully expressed my own views, that it would not tend to promote harmony in the Administration, or secure any practical advantage to the Colony for Her Majesty to act upon the provisions of the clause to which I have referred, and believing, moreover, that the provision made for continuing an Executive Committee to be composed of two members of the new Chamber (instead of three as at present), with full power to the Governor to change them as often as he finds necessary, is the most convenient, and best adapted to the circumstances of the Colony, I leave the question to your consideration and decision.

Should you take the same view as I do, the existing arrangements will be continued until the meeting of the new Legislative Chamber, when the subject would have to be brought under their consideration; but the same arrangements would still go on unless and until that Body makes a change, a contingency which I do not at all anticipate.

The Legislative Council has accepted the Act rather as a measure of expediency than as wholly approving it.

I believe the entire Body (with one exception) is decidedly in favour of the abolition of the Assembly; but a considerable number of the members are strongly opposed to the clause which makes the nominated members of the new Chamber only have an existence during the continuance of the Chamber, and not for life. It was only natural that gentlemen who at present are appointed upon a life tenure should dislike its being changed to a more temporary one. Many of the members also object to the clauses enabling the Queen to send one or two Commissioners from England. On these two points I believe there would have been considerable opposition in the Council, and possibly the Bill might have been rejected had not the members been induced generously to give up their own feelings in the matter from a sincere desire to benefit the Colony by getting rid of the House of Assembly, even though the measure accomplishing that object was not in all other respects exactly what they wished.

My own view is that the Act remodelling the Constitution, notwithstanding its imperfections, is as a whole a great, a comprehensive, and a most valuable measure, and one which it may reasonably be hoped will soon lead to a material improvement in the position and prospects of the Colony.

I will only add my earnest hope that Her Majesty may be recommended specially to confirm and approve this Act, and with the least practicable delay, as it is important that the first session under it should be held as early in the ensuing year as possible to obviate the great inconveniences entailed upon the gentlemen from the country districts if called upon to leave their homes and their occupations at a later and unseasonable period.

P.S.—This despatch was written in anticipation of the passing of the Bill, after it had finally gone through the Committee, and stood for a third reading, and after I had ascertained that the Legislative Council were likely to waive their objections and accept the measure as it came up from the Assembly on the grounds of expediency and the risk to which the Bill would be subjected if sent back to the Assembly for amendment. But upon the Bill being brought up in the Assembly for a third reading on the 5th instant, the opportunity was taken to propose no end of amendments to it, and for some hours it was a question whether it would ever be passed at all, or at all events without such alterations as would greatly interfere with its efficiency. Eventually, however, the Bill was got through the House, and sent up to the Legislative Council. The only important amendment actually adopted was the substitution, in the 7th clause, of one Commissioner at 3,000*l.* per annum, instead of one or two Commissioners at salaries of 2,000*l.* each.

I have not been able to re-write this despatch to suit this modification of the Act, being anxious not to lose the opportunity of sending it home by the present packet. Nor is it necessary for me to do so, as the change made in the Act does not alter my views with regard to the inexpediency of sending out any one from England as a Commissioner; indeed one Commissioner from England would be even more objectionable than two at 2,000*l.* each, and would be a still nearer approach to the *imperium in imperio*.

This alteration of the measure after it had passed the Committee has left the 8th clause, which has not been altered to correspond, in some degree unintelligible, though as the words left in with reference to "Her Majesty not appointing more than one Commissioner" are mere surplusage, their presence cannot affect the working of the Act, whilst any attempt to get the incongruity rectified might have opened the door to further amendments, and possibly have caused the total loss of the measure.

No. 50.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 314.) (Answered No. 15, January 1, 1866, page 260.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Resolution of the House of Assembly unanimously passed on the 23rd ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Resolution of the House of Assembly.

House of Assembly, Thursday, November 23, 1865.

Resolved—That the House of Assembly of Jamaica desire to convey its grateful thanks to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B., to Captain de Horsey, R.N., late Senior Naval Officer, and to the officers, non-commissioned and other Warrant Officers, and men of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, and the volunteer militia and Maroons, for their prompt and effectual services in crushing the wicked and blood-thirsty rebellion in the eastern part of this colony, and in checking its extension throughout the colony.

Resolved—That his Honour the Speaker of the Assembly be requested to transmit to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, C.B., to Sir Francis Leopold McClintock, Knight, Commodore on this station, to Captain de Horsey, R.N., late Senior Naval Officer, to Colonel Hunt of the Volunteer Militia of this Island, and Colonel Fyfe of the Maroons, a copy of the foregoing resolution.

No. 51.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell M. P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 317.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter dated 1st of August last which was addressed to a firm in Kingston.

The only object in forwarding this communication is to show that even five months ago the residents in the parishes to the westward had observed indications of a very unsatisfactory state of feeling amongst the negroes, and were apprehensive of insurrection.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Mr. Nairne to Messrs. Grant and Co.

(Private.)

Dear Sirs, *Lilliput P. O., St. Elizabeth, August* 1, 1865.

IF there is any possibility of doing so, please forward by means of conveyance through book post without a moment's delay, one of your patent self-acting revolvers which I have been informed you sell at 64*s.*; at all events, let me have one, and forward your bill at same time.

The peasantry in this parish are in a very excited and disaffected state, owing, it is supposed, of a report being circulated among them that Her Majesty had sent out money to be distributed among them which had been withheld by those in authority.

Several influential gentlemen have had their families removed to Black River, where a gun-boat from Port Royal is expected to anchor to-day.

It is reported that a body of insurgents from Hanover and St. James will fraternize with the St. Elizabeth's people to attack the town of Black River at 10 o clock to-day.

For my part, I placed so little credence in any possibility of a rising among the people (which had been fully discussed here for the last three weeks), that I delayed till now to put myself on the defensive in case of an outbreak, but serious appehensions are now entertained by others who are in a better position to judge from the character and temper of the people than I who have been only residing here for the last twelve months.

If the ordinary sort of gun caps will not suit the revolver, please forward such as you know to be required.

I am, &c.

(Signed) COLIN NAIRNE.

No. 52.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 319.) (Answered No. 10, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of two documents showing the kind of spirit still existing in several parishes.

One is an anonymous threatening letter, the other a statement on oath relative to secret meetings and drillings which there is every reason to believe still take place in several parishes.

The Government has taken steps to put a stop to these practices under a recently enacted law.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

Statement by William Coley.

Jamaica, ss., St. Elizabeth.

I, WILLIAM COLEY, deserter from Her Majesty's 1st West India Regiment, was on duty with my commanding officer, Lieutenant Bates, in Vere, when I deserted about June last. Since then I have been four months at Appleton, and the last two months at Roses Valley in the district of Oxford Estate, at the house of one Mrs. Louisa Wilmott. Since the rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East, one Archibald McLeish in the district of Roses Valley, and William Chambers and Joe Levy, of Evergreen District, have been and are still in the habit of holding midnight meetings from 6 o'clock P.M. to 6 o'clock A.M. at the house of William Chambers, when one Joe Levy kept guard. They asked him if I was a soldier, and whether I would join and drill them; I refused, on which they threatened to report me. I reclined outside the house and heard William Chambers say they must make haste and get powder and guns, and those that had no guns must bring machetts; that they must go down and burn Mr. Coke's works at Oxford and shoot him; that he would keep his Bible in his hand, and when the buckras took him, he would swear that it was the Bible he was reading. I recognized at the meeting Charles Farquharson and his wife, William Mackintosh and wife, Crafton Cummings, Albert and Henry Cummings, William Foster, and Sarah Cummings, and one man called Parpy Hall, besides a good many others I do not know. They agreed to commence the first day of Christmas, and as soon as they fired the works they were all to come out with their guns and matchetts and take everything out of Mr. Kerr's shop, for he was not selling good to them; and Charles Farquharson said that whenever anything took place they would go to the bushman.

I, William Coley, make oath and state all the above to be truth.

So help me God.

(Signed) WILLIAM COLEY, his ⋈ mark.

Sworn before us, this 27th November, 1865.

(Signed) W. H. Coke, *J.P.*
J. E. Kerr, *J.P.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

Further Statement by William Coley.

Jamaica, ss., St. Elizabeth.

I, WILLIAM COLEY, deserter from the 1st West India Regiment, further make oath, and state that at the house of Archibald McLeish in the district of Roses Valley, where I went to attend a meeting, supposing it to be a prayer-meeting, I found the door shut, and sitting down outside I heard Archibald McLeish holding a meeting, and saying that he was going to town to buy powder and arms, to bring them down and hide them at a place called Thatch Walk; that they must all throw up to buy the powder—they wanted a puncheon; that they would rise the first day of Christmas, and shoot all the buckras; that they would come down when William Chambers and his party came from Evergreen, and meet together at a place called Bell Hill in front of Oxford-house. I also saw a lot

of bows and arrows in a heap in a corner of the house, and I heard him say when they had killed the buckras they would all go to the shops and drink and make merry. I saw there at Archibald McLeish's house William Colley and his wife, George Maitland and his wife, many White, and very many others who I could not recognize, as directly I refused to join them they raised upon me with sticks and drove me down the hill.

Archibald McLeish saw me on Saturday at Bogue-market, asked me to join him, and on my refusing, threatened to report me as a deserter.

I, William Coley, make oath and state that the above having been read to me is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help me God.

(Signed) WILLIAM COLEY, his ⋈ mark.

Sworn before us, this 27th November, 1865, at Oxford Estate.

(Signed) W. H. Coke, *J.P.*
J. E. Kerr, *J.P.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 52.

Anonymous Communication.

Dear old Massa Postmaster, *Westmoreland, November* 24, 1865.

SOME time ago I addressed you through this same channel, as you must observe now by my disguised writing. I then said, "You know me well," but the subject then was one of caution, which I requested you to use as a relative of the parties now even still residing in these diggings. I was told you got my letter, but did not use it as requested: be it so.

This, however, is of a more serious and important nature, and I prefer this mode of assuring those in authority to be on their guard day and night; not to believe we are safe and free from the ravages and barbarities already felt and fearfully carried out. This my parish is considered by some quite free and safe from any attempt, while many, myself included, fully know what is to be attempted again during the Christmas. Let this be the warning to our worthy Custos. Let him not lose sight of his estates, every one knows he will be at his post of honour. Our zealous Captains of Volunteers, Farquharson and Adolphus, with their officers and men, would also do their duties to a man. Do not put me down as a simple alarmist. Wickedness and faction is still abroad. Beware!

Strong and efficient guards must be placed, well armed, in this town and country parts. Now as to yourself individually. It is foolishly believed by the ignorant that the American Government has offered the Governor to lend troops to aid and kill black people. The flag now and then hoisted at your office has been, and still is, a mark; so, dear old massa, be cautious.

Yours in all, but no humbug.

No. 53.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 320.) (Answered No. 17, January 1, 1866, page 260.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of an address presented to me by the inhabitants of the parish of St. James and the vicinity, very numerously and respectably signed.

I also inclose a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Address.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of Jamaica, &c., &c., &c.

WE, the undersigned inhabitants of the parish of St. James and vicinity, beg most respectfully to tender to your Excellency the sincere expression of our gratitude and

thanks for the promptitude, energy and decision which distinguished your Excellency in suppressing the late atrocious rebellion in St. Thomas in the East, and to which, nobly seconded by Her Majesty's military and naval forces, Volunteers, and Maroons, we attribute under God the salvation of our lives and the very existence of the Colony.

2. We beg further to tender to your Excellency our respectful thanks for the proposal in your Excellency's opening address to the Legislature to abolish the existing Constitution of the Colony, and for the substitution of another more suitable to its requirements, deeply impressed as we are with the paramount necessity of such a measure, by which alone confidence can be restored to the minds of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in Jamaica, and life and property rendered secure.

We have, &c.
(Signed) G. M. LAWSON,
Of Hampden Estate, Senior Magistrate, St. James.
(And 79 others.)

Montego Bay, November 28, 1865.

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

Reply to the preceding Address.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you sincerely for your address, for although I only did my duty in endeavouring promptly to put down and punish the late atrocious rebellion, it is gratifying to me to know that the steps taken by me for that purpose have met with your approval.

2. I can assure you that it is my constant and anxious thought by day and by night how I can best provide for the future peace and safety of the Colony, convinced as I am that with such a population as we have, and with so much disaffection arising from ignorance and evil teaching pervading that population, it must be a long time before the same feeling of confidence and security can again be felt by the white and coloured inhabitants as existed prior to the late outbreak.

3. I rejoice to find that you concur with me in thinking that the only way of enabling the Government to cope successfully with the state of things which now exists, and is likely to exist for a great length of time to come, is so to modify the present Constitution of the Colony as, by creating a strong Government, will enable that Government to command vigour and efficiency of action within the Island, and respect and confidence in England.

4. Most earnestly do I hope that all those who have a stake in the country, and who are anxious to promote its true interests, will, under a state of things which, if continued, must render all property valueless, merge every lesser or personal consideration, and cordially co-operate to bring about this great and good work, of which (if achieved) the benefit will descend to and be shared in by all future generations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

To the Hon. J. M. Lawson, M.D.,
and other Gentlemen of the Parish of St. James, &c.

No. 54.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 321.) (Answered No. 13, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

HAVING been given to understand that some exception has been taken by a portion of the press in England (though I have not seen any of the articles referred to), to the steps taken by me to put down the rebellion in the eastern parishes, I think it due to you as well as to myself, to make the following general statement :—

2. Long previous to the rebellion breaking out in Morant Bay, Government had good reason to believe that a spirit of disaffection and disloyalty pervaded very many of the parishes; and as far back as August last I had occasion to bring to your notice that I had been obliged to send down a ship of war to certain parts to watch events and be prepared for any emergency.

3. The actual rising of the negro population took place at a different point of the

island, and it rapidly extended from that point along the coast line of the eastern end of the island for some fifty miles, until headed and turned by the landing of troops at Port Antonio.

It was also at the same time spreading to the north-west, up the line of the Blue Mountain Valley, until checked by meeting the troops detached from Newcastle to intercept its progress.

4. It is scarcely necessary to point out that the negro is a creature of impulse and imitation, easily misled, very excitable, and a perfect fiend when under the influence of an excitement which stirs up all the evil passions of a race little removed in many respects from absolute savages.

5. Under these conditions, and knowing the insecure and unprotected state of the entire Colony, and the small force available for our defence in the event of any general rising taking place simultaneously, it became a matter of absolute necessity and self-defence, not only promptly to put down the outbreak, but by proclaiming martial law in the districts where it existed and contiguous thereto, to ensure that the punishment inflicted should be summary and severe.

6. It was necessary to make an example which, by striking terror, might deter other districts from following the horrible example of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

7. In the long run, and viewed as a whole, any amount of just severity thus exercised became a mercy, and the exaction of the last penalty for rebellion from the few has in all human probability saved the lives of the many, as well as relieved the Colony and Great Britain from a long, protracted, bloody, and expensive strife; for it must be remembered that in an extensive, thinly populated, and mountainous country like Jamaica, without roads or means of traversing the mountain fastnesses, the subduing of a general rebellion would be no easy or short task.

8. All the general arrangements, as narrated in my despatch No. 251 of the 20th of October, were directed by myself personally, and for them I alone am responsible.

The subordinate arrangements and details with regard to the internal management of the districts under martial law, were of course in the hands of military authorities, whose reports, so far as they have reached me, I have duly transmitted to you.

9. It is, perhaps, impossible when a country is under martial law, imposed on account of scenes of violence, plundering of properties, burnings of houses and cruel butcheries, and when there is little time for that cool and careful investigation which takes place under more favourable circumstances, but that some occurrences must ensue which are to be deplored, and under which individuals may possibly suffer unjustly.

But taken as a whole, and bearing in mind both the vastness of the danger and the small means of meeting it, I do not consider that the punishment has been greater than the crime merited, or than was necessary to prevent a recurrence of it.

10. I have a perfect conviction in my own mind, after an experience of four years in Jamaica, and with the best and most varied means of obtaining information, that this Colony has had a most narrow escape from universal anarchy and tumult, and that this escape is due solely to the promptness and decision of action by which the first outbreak of rebellion was put down and punished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 55.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received December 30.)

(No. 322.) (Answered No. 14, January 1, 1866, page 259.)

Sir, *King's House, December 8, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit communications which I received yesterday from the Administrator of the Government of Barbadoes, and the General commanding on that station, pressing upon me the early return to the Colony of the troops lent to aid in suppressing the rebellion in Jamaica.

I also transmit copies of my replies.

In the existing state of feeling which prevails in so many parishes of the island, I consider it would be unsafe at present to withdraw the troops belonging to Barbadoes, which are stationed over a large area of country, and to the presence of which, as you would gather from Colonel Whitfield's letter of the 21st November, transmitted in my

despatch No. 302* of the 23rd instant, we are indebted for the prevention of any further rising of the negro population.

I should be glad to receive your instructions on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 55.

Lieutenant-Governor Mundy to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Windward Islands, Barbadoes, November* 24, 1865.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of the 29th ultimo, and I learn with great satisfaction that the rebellion in the eastern districts of Jamaica has been quelled, and I sincerely trust that the energy with which this crisis has been met may effectually repress that unsatisfactory state of feeling which you inform me still exists in the other parishes of the island.

2. With regard to the concluding paragraph of your Excellency's despatch, I presume it is your intention to apply to Her Majesty's Government for such increase of the military force in your command as you describe to be necessary for a long time to come, and I would venture to urge on you a hope that you will bear in mind the desirability of returning to their head-quarters at as early a date as posssible the troops detached from Barbadoes.

3. In making this request I feel sure your Excellency will acquit me of any desire to embarrass you in your present difficulties, but the Major-General commanding has very urgently put before me the pressure which the ordinary duties of the garrison impose on the reduced numbers at present in this island, and other considerations, which will be obvious to your Excellency, make me very desirous to see the force restored to its usual strength.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. A. M. MUNDY,
Lieutenant-Governor administering the Government, Windward Islands.

Inclosure 2 in No. 55.

Governor Eyre to Lieutenant-Governor Mundy.

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch dated 24th ultimo, pressing upon me the importance of returning to Barbadoes at as early a date as possible the troops so kindly and promptly sent by you to aid in suppressing the rebellion in Jamaica.

2. I am very anxious that Barbadoes should not suffer any inconvenience or detriment from having so generously aided Jamaica; but at the same time, as I informed your Excellency in my former despatch, there is still a wide-spread spirit of disaffection in this Colony which is only kept under by the presence of the troops from Barbadoes stationed in small detachments over a large area of country, and were these to be withdrawn I have no other means of securing the peace of the country.

3. Uuder these circumstances I am sure your Excellency would not wish me to return the troops which are so essential to the safety of this Colony until such time as Her Majesty's Government have had time to reply to my representations and decide upon the provision to be made for the permant augmentation of the garrison of this island.

4. I have long since communicated with Her Majesty's Government on the subject, but will do so again by the present packet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 179.

Inclosure 3 in No. 55.

Major-General Brooke to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Barbadoes, November* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 29th ultimo, reporting the arrival and disposition of the force lately dispatched from this command, at your Excellency's request, to aid in quelling the disturbances in Jamaica, and as your Excellency informs me that the rebellion is now crushed and almost put down, I trust that you will be good enough to permit the troops thus detached from Barbadoes to return to their station as soon as practicable.

2. I need not remind your Excellency that among the many Colonies included in this command, disturbances may at any time arise requiring military assistance to quell, and, at present, my force is so very limited that in such an event I would find it almost impossible to afford the necessary aid.

Your Excellency is aware that the force in question was lent to the Colony of Jamaica solely on your Excellency's application for a special purpose, and were not given for ordinary garrison duties, and they should not be considered as being in any way on the strength of the Jamaica command. I therefore trust that they may not be detained there after their presence for that special purpose has ceased to become absolutely necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. BROOKE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 55.

Governor Eyre to Major-General Brooke.

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of the 24th ultimo, requesting that the troops so kindly and promptly sent from Barbadoes to aid in quelling the insurrection in Jamaica may be returned to that Colony now that the rebellion is over.

2. In reply I have to state that, although the rising of the negroes has been put down in the districts where it occurred, a very bad spirit still prevails throughout most of the other parishes, and is only kept down by the presence of the troops from Barbadoes stationed in small detachments over a large area of country.

3. Were these to be withdrawn, I have no means whatever of providing for the security of the Colony, and I am sure your Excellency would not wish me to withdraw this safeguard until such time as Her Majesty's Government, to whom I have communicated the necessity of augmenting our permanent garrison, can decide what are to be the future military arrangements here, and make the necessary provision.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 56.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 325.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of a communication from the Consul-General in Cuba, and of my reply thereto, on the subject of the friendly aid recently offered to this Government by the Spanish authorities of Cuba, as already notified in my despatch No. 254* of the 24th of October.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 48.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

Consul-General Bunch to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.

Sir, *Havana, November* 1, 1865.

I HAVE had the honour to receive this day your letter of the 16th ultimo, in which you convey to me the intelligence of a rebellion of the blacks having broken out in the eastern part of Jamaica, and request me to aid his Excellency the Governor in obtaining, as speedily as possible, reinforcements, both naval and military, from Nova Scotia.

In reply, I beg leave to detail to you the steps which I have taken in this unfortunate matter. You will see that not a moment was lost in demanding aid, and the result has even surpassed my expectations.

On the 18th ultimo, at 12·15 P.M., I received a telegram from the Acting Vice-Consul at Santiago de Cuba, which embodied the substance of the letter to which I am now replying. Most fortunately the American steamer "Liberty" was on the point of leaving for New York. I forwarded by her the intelligence to Her Majesty's Consul at that port. His reply informs me that he received it 3 P.M. on the 23rd, and at once transmitted it to Halifax. I see by an American paper of the 26th, that Sir James Hope sailed on the 24th from Halifax for Port Royal, with the 17th Regiment and a battery of artillery, on board of the "Duncan." By the steamers "Eagle" and "Corsica," leaving Havana on the 21st of October, I sent duplicates and triplicates of my despatch to New York.

By the latter vessel I wrote to the Governor of the Bahamas, and suggested the propriety of his communicating with the officer commanding any of Her Majesty's ships which might be at Nassau.

On the 23rd I sent to the senior officer at Vera Cruz the information which I had received.

On the 24th, Her Majesty's ship "Cordelia" arrived from her cruizing ground. I at once communicated with Commander de Whal, and on the following day he sailed for Port Royal.

I believe, therefore, that everything was done here which could be towards procuring assistance for Jamaica.

It is, however, a simple act of justice that I should bring to the notice of his Excellency the Governor the friendly and generous conduct of his Excellency General Dulce, the Captain-General of this island. So soon as he received intelligence of the rebellion, he offered to me the services of 1,000 men of the Spanish army, together with two vessels of war which were at Santiago de Cuba. I did not feel authorized to accept the land forces, but I gladly acquiesced in the ships being despatched to Port Royal. This, as you know, was done without delay.

I was glad to hear yesterday, by the return of these vessels, that the rebellion was suppressed, and order restored.

It is difficult to exaggerate the anxiety manifested by General Dulce to be of use, and I have taken care to call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to his behaviour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT BUNCH.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

The Secretary of the Executive Committee to Consul-General Bunch.

Sir, *Executive Committee Office, Jamaica, November* 23, 1865.

I AM directed by his Excellency the Governor in Executive Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 1st instant. I am instructed to state in reply, that the Government of this Colony highly appreciate your prompt and energetic exertions in procuring aid to suppress the rebellion which had broken out in Jamaica; and I am to tender to you their grateful thanks for your very valuable services and good offices in the matter.

I am also to express the high sense this Government entertain of the obliging and generous conduct of his Excellency the Governor-General of Cuba, in his friendly proffer of troops and ships of war, a substantial proof of goodwill and friendship which is highly valued by the authorities and colonists of Jamaica, and has been thankfully brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. R. MYERS.

No. 57.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 326.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of letters which have passed between General O'Connor and myself, in reference to the publication of an extract from a private letter of Colonel Whitfield's.

This correspondence explains itself, and shows the temper and spirit by which General O'Connor is actuated.

I inclose copy of the extract referred to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, November* 24, 1865.

IN the public papers this day published, I have read with surprise, not to use stronger language, a Message from your Excellency to the House of Assembly, wherein an extract from a communication from Colonel Whitfield, commanding troops in north-west district, to your Excellency forms the basis of the said Message.

Without canvassing the reasons of the Colonel in addressing your Excellency direct on the subject of the military operations, in a command solely under my superintendence, I cannot but think it is to be regretted that any military information should be accepted and acted on which does not pass through the hands of the officer commanding Her Majesty's forces in Jamaica. In these troublous times much alarm is created by injudicious reports; and though I trust the example set by Colonel Whitfield in addressing letters direct on military matters may not be followed or continued in by this officer, yet I would desire to submit and to represent to your Excellency the expediency—setting aside the advantage to the public service—of all letters received direct bearing on military points, being referred to myself before action be taken thereon; but I trust the steps I have taken will render such impossible: nevertheless, if any representations are to be made to your Excellency respecting military operations, such should emanate from myself. In this view I would venture to suggest that if your Excellency receives any information from officers in command of districts or outposts unendorsed by myself, that they be remitted to me for my observation before steps be taken; I believe thereby the tranquillity of the Island would be better maintained, not taking into consideration the fact that the General officer in command is alone the authority from whom all reports should emanate, when intended for your consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 1, 1865.

IN reply to your letter dated the 24th ultimo, but only received late on the 29th, on the subject of an extract from a communication from Colonel Whitfield, commanding troops in north-west district, to myself, which forms the basis of a Message to the Assembly, and which communication your Excellency is of opinion ought to have been made through yourself as commanding Her Majesty's forces in Jamaica, I have only to remark that Colonel Whitfield is in no way to blame for what took place. The letter to me from that officer was a private one, and under ordinary circumstances ought not to be and would not have been made public.

2. The exceptional circumstances under which a different course was pursued, are simply these:—

3. The House of Assembly had shortly before called upon me to furnish it with any communications tending to show the unsettled and insecure state of the country, as it was important that it should be in possession of the best and most authentic information on this point, with a view to immediate legislation. When, therefore, I received Colonel Whitfield's letter and showed it to the Executive Committee as fully confirming the views the Government had been led to form from other sources of intelligence, my advisers considered it highly important that the extracts, to which you refer, should be at once sent down to the House, then on the point of meeting, and this was done without considering that the act might place Colonel Whitfield in the position of appearing to have transgressed military etiquette, because the extract specified no "military operations," but simply conveyed a general opinion as to the political condition of the country, and the state of the police force of the Colony, with some valuable suggestions for its improvements.

3. Certainly there was no intention to infringe a rule of the public service which in the abstract is no doubt a wise and salutary one, that officers of any branch of that service should only make reports through the heads of their respective departments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 57.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 5, 1865.

THE Deputy Adjutant-General submitted to me this morning a letter from Colonel Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, commanding the north-western district, Falmouth, November 28, 1865, in reply to a communication calling upon him to explain "why he had corresponded direct with his Excellency the Governor on military subjects," and in which that officer states "the same was a private note which I wrote on my return from Savanna-la-Mar in answer to one he wrote to me immediately after my arrival here. I had no idea this private note would ever have been made use of as a public document, and feel exceedingly grieved and hurt that the Major-General should have viewed my conduct in the way he had; at any rate, I should feel obliged, as the Governor has thought proper to make my private note public, that he would show it to the Major-General, who I am sure would be at once convinced that the instructions contained in his official letter of the 24th instant would not have been necessary."

In accordance with Colonel Whitfield's wish I have the honour to request your Excellency will transmit, for my perusal, the "private note" of that officer to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 57.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

IN accordance with the request made by Colonel Whitfield, I transmit that officer's letter to me of the 21st ultimo for your perusal.

My despatch of the 1st December had already informed your Excellency that it was written as a private communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 57.

Colonel Whitfield to Governor Eyre.

(Extract.) *November* 21, 1865.

I DID not like to answer your letter of the 13th instant until I had visited all the detachments in my district, and seen enough of the people to give an opinion. I quite agree with you in thinking that a seditious and disloyal spirit pervades the entire island, and that in all probability the negroes would rise, if it were not for the presence of the military. I think that a considerable amount of intercommunication has, and is taking place between the disaffected in the different parishes; for I observe men of sullen and dissatisfied looks riding about the country in all directions. About one-half the negroes look happy and contented; the remainder, as if they would take much pleasure in cutting one's throat. I think the same feeling exists among the women: but I do not think this feeling is confined to that district between Savanna-la-Mar and Montego Bay, but everywhere.

* * * * *

I must now remark on the police force of this Colony. They are in every district I have seen, a most inefficient body of men; in many cases, old and infirm. They are badly clothed and badly fed. I should say, if their services were required, they would be next to useless. They are far inferior to those in Barbados, St. Vincent, and Demerara; and I attribute this entirely to the force being located in their own parishes. I should suggest that the whole police be under the command of a Chief, an active and intelligent young military officer, and the present inspectors under his orders. They should be frequently moved from one part of the island to another; they should be properly armed and drilled; and a portion should be properly mounted and attached to each station, for the purpose of carrying despatches and making rapid movements in any direction, required escorts, &c.

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No. 58.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.— (*Received December* 30.)

(No. 327.) (Answered No. 16, January 1, 1866, page 260.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 8, 1865.

JUST as I am closing my despatches, I have received from the members of the Executive Committee, from Mr. Williams, and from Mr. R. W. Smith, Minutes expressihe of their views with regard to the new Constitution Act, or to particular portions of it.

I also inclose a Protest from Mr. Moncrieffe, a member of the Legislative Council, against the Act, a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement upon which it was based, of a Minute of Mr. Westmorland's in reference thereto, and of my reply, and of a Minute by Mr. Hosack.

It is impossible for me now to analyse and report upon any of these documents, and I would therefore only make one remark with regard to the first part of Mr. R. W. Smith's Minute. A nominee Council would, apparently, have fully met his views, and yet he positively refused to join in carrying such a form of Council.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

Memorandum for the Executive Committee.

THE Governor would be glad to learn the opinion of the Executive Committee as to the number of members in the Legislative Council and those of Assembly respectively, in favour of or adverse to that clause of the new Constitution Bill being acted upon in England, which provides that the Queen may send out one or two Commissioners instead of an Executive Committee, or as part of the Executive Committee.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

December 4, 1865.

2. The Governor would be glad, also, to have the views of the Committee as to the policy or impolicy of acting upon the clause referred to.

E. E.

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Minute by Mr. Westmorland.

THE appointment of Commissioners from England to manage the affairs of Jamaica is distasteful to two-thirds or more of the Council, Assembly, and the intelligent inhabitants; they consider the proposal to be a reflection on their intelligence and characters.

2. It was proposed ostensibly for the purpose of putting an end to party strife and alleged scramble for place; in reality, to prevent any of the members of the present Executive Committee from continuing to possess any share in the Government.

3. How far great financial abilities could go in improving our present state, brought about by British legislation, is a matter of opinion; to my mind, prosperity must be looked for from other sources than mere manipulation of taxation and expenditure.

4. If it be thought advisable that, in addition to the Governor, British statesmanship should be resorted to, then I prefer one Commissioner at 3,000*l.* per annum to two at 2,000*l.*, on the score of the probability of our obtaining superior talent.

5. A question of course would arise whether such an officer would work harmoniously with the Governor or otherwise.

I have no private interest to serve in making these remarks; my retirement from the Government would be a matter of convenience to myself and of benefit to my private avocations.

7. I sincerely trust Her Majesty will be advised to consent to the new Constitution Bill, which, though objectionable in many respects, gets rid of the House of Assembly; a step rendered absolutely necessary by recent occurrences, and for the accomplishment of this great boon all its other imperfections should be overlooked.

(Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

Executive Committee Office, Spanish Town, December 8, 1865.

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

Reply of Dr. Hamilton to the Governor's Minute of December 4, 1865.

IN reply to the Minute of his Excellency the Governor of the 4th December requesting to learn the opinion of the Executive Committee on the number of members in the Legislative Council and House of Assembly respectively in favour of or adverse to that clause of the new Constitution Bill being acted upon in Englamd, which provides that the Queen may send out a Commissioner to act as one of the Executive Committee, and further asking for the views of the Committee as to the policy or impolicy of acting upon the clause referred to:

2. I beg to state that on the occasion of the Bill being committed in the Council there were present the Honourable the President Sir Bryan Edwards, Knight (Chief Justice), the Honourable Messrs. East, Mackinnon, Moncrieffe, Lawson, Logan, Hamilton, Heslop (Attorney-General), Vickers, and M'Dowell. Every one of these gentlemen were adverse to the clause, and Messrs. East, Mackinnon, Moncrieffe, and Logan spoke strongly against it. Had it not been for the paramount importance of securing the abolition of the House of Assembly, and a well-grounded apprehension that were the Bill to be amended in Council it would have been ultimately lost, this clause (the 7th) as well as several others would never have been acceded to by the Board.

3. The feeling in the Council was that the Bill should be passed at any risk, but that it contained many provisions which would require at some future time much careful reconsideration.

4. With regard to the second part of the question, as it has been thought advisable that each member of the Executive Committee should record his individual opinion, I beg to state that I believe the nomination of a Commissioner from England to be impolitic for the following reasons:—

1st. His position, both in a political, social, and pecuniary sense, would approximate too closely to that of the Governor, and his influence would have immense weight should he, in any disputed question, range himself either with the Governor against the Legislative Chamber, or with the Chamber against the Governor.

2nd. His position in the Chamber would be a very peculiar one. A Commissioner could scarcely be sent out whose tenure of office would depend on the caprice of a Colonial Legislature, and in event of grave difficulties arising between such Commissioner and the Chamber, one of two evils would result: either he would have to resign office, or

one or more dissolutions of the Chamber take place, thus keeping up party strife in the country; and considering the standing of the country gentlemen who will most likely compose the Chamber, not improbably a "dead lock."

3rd. Mr. Mackinnon, when speaking on the 7th clause of the Bill in Council, observed that whereas before the passing of the Act 17 Vict., cap. 29, there was a yearly and increasing excess of expenditure over receipts in the finances of the Island, that since the appointment of the Executive Committee, and under the management of the successive Executive Committees that have held office since that period, receipts and expenditure had been made to balance, and the finances of the country generally placed in a more favourable position; he therefore held that there was no want of financial ability in the country to manage its affairs, and that assistance on that point was not required from England; and his views met with the approbation of the other members of Council then present.

4th. The appointment of one Commissioner from England would not prevent the contest for place on which so much force has been laid, so long as another Commissioner remains to be appointed from the Chamber, and such Commissioner would be placed in a peculiar situation were his local colleague forced to retire and he (if immoveable) obliged to accept a new colleague from the former Opposition.

5th. Were such Commissioner moveable at the will of the Chamber, expressed by by the strong opposition of the majority of the members to his policy, and had he to resign office, as in like circumstances a local Executive Committee would have to do, a series of such Commissioners might have to be sent out; and as each would have to make himself acquainted with the general state, requirements, and resources of the country, all of which would take considerable time, the efficiency of such Commissioner and the services he could render the Colony would be much lessened.

6th. Unless the benefits to be secured to the Island by sending out such a Commissioner were very clear and well-defined, the Colony can ill afford the great increase in expenditure to which it would thereby be exposed.

(Signed) ROBERT HAMILTON.

December 8, 1865.

Inclosure 4 in No. 58.

Reply of Mr. Hosack to the Governor's Minute of December 4, 1865.

THE new Constitution Act is a compromise between a section of the Government party and the Opposition in order to attain one great object, namely, the abolition of the Assembly. The remaining minority of the Assembly were opposed to this being done, though generally supporters of the Government.

2. The proposals to appoint Commissioners from England, and to have a half-elected and half nominated Chamber instead of an entirely nominee Chamber as proposed by the Government, came from the opposition, and were only consented to in order to secure the support of the Opposition to abolish the Assembly.

3. The facts being so, the question arises whether the new Chamber about to be created should not have an opportunity of judging of the propriety, or otherwise, of having a Commissioner from England. I think it should, because the new Chamber will be a better judge of this than an expiring Assembly torn to pieces by bitter party spirit.

4. Should a Commissioner be appointed from England who shall not receive the support of the new Chamber, I cannot see how such a result is to be rectified without causing very great public inconvenience.

5. A Commissioner at a salary of 3,000*l.* a year would be too nearly on a level with, and would, I consider, be far better off than, the Governor of the Island with a salary of 5,000*l.*

(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

December 8, 1865.

Inclosure 5 in No. 58.

Governor Eyre to Mr. Smith.

My dear Sir, *King's House, December 5*, 1865.

AS it is possible the new Constitution Act may be passed in time to go home by the present packet, I beg to remind you that at a meeting held at King's-house at which an understanding was come to as to the main points to be combined in the Bill, I promised to send home with the Act any expression of opinion which might be sent to me for the purpose by yourself or the other gentlemeu who adopt your views in reference to the clauses which authorise Her Majesty to appoint one or two Commissioners in the place of or to aid an Executive Committee according as one or two might be nominated.

2. I shall be obliged by your letting me have any statement you may wish to have submitted to the Secretary of State, if possible, by Thursday evening.

3. It would, of course, be desirable in support of your views to specify the number and names of the Members of the House of Assembly or Legislative Council who support your views, in order that the Secretary of State may have full means before him of judging how far they are generally entertained by the present Legislative Bodies.

4. I shall be obliged by your communicating this note to Mr. J. S. Williams.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 58.

Mr. Smith to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Spanish Town, December* 8, 1865.

WHEN your Excellency did me the honour at the opening of the Legislative session to require my co-operation in the then grave state of affairs in the island, I represented to your Excellency as my opinion after mature deliberation that the Government of the island should be changed, and that it should be administered for a time at least by Commissioners to be appointed by the Crown, and invested with full powers.

2. I was led to this opinion from the antagonism that not only the outbreak in St. Thomas-in-the-East, but the discovery of a plot existing throughout the island disclosed, of the black to the white and coloured races, and I desired to remove that feature by getting rid, as far as possible, of legislation by the white and coloured resident classes, and the substitution of a more direct control by the Queen's Government, thus evidencing a determination on its part to put down all aspirations at domination by the black race as utterly hopeless, at the same time avoiding what would be considered by it as class legislation by the whites. I was the more confirmed, too, in this by the irritation in the Assembly and out of it arising from political jealousies since the institution of an Executive Committee. These opinions I knew were largely shared by members of the Legislature, and by many of the intelligent proprietary Body. Such a course of action, too, I was satisfied would restore confidence in the minds of the British capitalists, the gradual withdrawal of whose aid in later times has not failed to exercise a very prejudicial effect.

3. This proposal, however, was disposed of by your Excellency's assurance that it was opposed to the general policy of the Colonial Office, nor was that impression removed in your Excellency's mind by the argument that the crisis was exceptional and ought to be dealt with by exceptional measures.

4. In this conflict of opinion it became necessary to modify our views, and it was finally agreed at an interview with your Excellency and your advisers, Mr. Williams, the member for the parish of Westmoreland, and myself, that in the proposed Bill permission should be granted to appoint two Commissioners from England, who should be associated as your Excellency's advisers in the stead of the Executive Committee with a Council partly elective and partly nominated by the Crown, none being place-holders save the Attorney-General. This proposition in my opinion constituted the main features of the scheme as submitted to the Legislature, and although after long discussion it was decided on in the Assembly that two Commissioners should be appointed on the third reading of the Bill, an amendment was carried striking out one of the Commissioners caused by the suddenly changed opinions of some of the members.

5. This amendment in my opinion deprives the Act of the salutary effect it would otherwise have, and as it throws upon the single Commissioner an amount of work and

responsibility almost, if not completely, beyond his powers, while as an adviser of your Excellency there would be no referee to whom to apply in case of a difference of opinion, this would necessitate the appointment of some resident third person for whom provision, you will observe, exists in the Act, and which for the reasons above stated would militate against the policy of the form of government sought to be inaugurated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RAYNES W. SMITH.

Inclosure 7 in No. 58.

Minute by Mr. Williams.

Spanish Town, December 8, 1865

MINUTE for his Excellency the Governor in reference to the appointment of Commissioners and members of an Executive Committee under the proposed new Constitution :—

1. It is submitted that under recent and present circumstances and the present juncture of affairs in the Colony the appointment by Her Most Gracious Majesty of a gentleman from England as the Queen's Commissioner, to take part in the Legislative Chamber, would most beneficially operate upon the minds of the lower orders as inducing them to believe that Her Majesty had herself sent out her officer to take part in the Government, to inquire into the state of the country, and to redress any grievances under which the lower classes may have been led to think that they labour.

2. It is submitted that the appointment of a gentleman of well-known standing and experience from England as a Commissioner, to take an active part in the Legislative Chamber in the management of public business, would also tend to give confidence to English proprietors of estates in Jamaica, and also to British and Continental capitalists, who might be inclined to make investments in the cultivation of the soil and in fostering public enterprise in the Colony.

That the Governor ought not to be that person, experience drawn from other Colonies in which the Governor is allowed to appear in and take active part in the Legislative Chamber has abundantly shown. The influence which such an appointment from England would give could never be afforded by a person localized as a colonist.

3. It is submitted that the constant struggles for office and the lamentable party contest which have run riot for many years since the institution of an Executive Committee have brought about very considerable social dissension and public disorganization, and have operated to the utter impracticability of the passing of any large remedial measures for the welfare of the Colony. If an Executive Committee is to be continued on the present basis under the Act for the better government of the Island, it is much feared that even in a single Chamber the same disastrous results would to a great extent follow.

4. It is submitted that it is extremely desirable that there should be a strong Government at least for some time to come: the continuance of an Executive Committee on the present basis would not tend to any such result; the appointment of a gentleman of well-known ability, experience, and standing as the Queen's Commissioner in the Chamber would, it is believed, materially contribute to that end.

5. It is, however, further most respectfully submitted that any such appointment would be highly prejudicial to the welfare of Jamaica at home and abroad, as well as be a matter of great reproach to the Home Government if in the exercise of this patronage (and the colonists have too often been thus treated) the individual sent out was one nominated more with a reference to considerations of nepotism and political or personal requirement, than with a view to the ability, experience, and standing of the individual and the best interests of the Colony.

6. It is also submitted that it is evident from the divisions in the Assembly, as recorded in the minutes of the proceedings, that two-thirds of the members present were in favour of the appointment from England; the difference between the members forming this proportion being upon the point whether there should be two Commissioners at 2,000*l.* per annum each, or one Commissioner at 3,000*l.* per annum.

The very large amount of 3,000*l.* per annum fixed to be paid by the taxpayers of the Colony, when additional taxation and the creation of new offices are being strongly opposed, manifests the desire that such appointment should be made even at such a cost.

7. But objections have been raised to any such appointment, and they are threefold:—

1st. That the Colonial Secretary will nominate only some political partisan, or some unfit favourite.

It is admitted that if such is to be the nature of the appointment, the objection would be valid; but it is scarcely conceived that in the present state of the public mind in the Colony, in England, and abroad, such a course of conduct could possibly be pursued:

2nd. That the appointment from England would be a slur on the gentlemen in the Colony.

The answer is that, although there are gentlemen of experience, ability, high standing, and honour in the Colony, the necessities of the times and the state of parties in the Colony absolutely demand such an appointment for the good of the Colony, and, also, that the Act, as it has passed the Local Legislature, provides for the appointment of one gentleman of Jamaica to be appointed to act with the one gentleman from England: and—

3rd. That the appointment of a Commissioner from England of such standing and at such pay is questionable as in relation to the position of the Governor.

The answer is, that the appointment of the Commissioner is to be at the pleasure of the Crown; and that he is to be subordinate to and under the control of the Governor; and that any such objection could to a very considerable extent, if not wholly, be cured by the British Government itself in regard of his authority, by placing the Governor in higher relative power under his Commission or instructions, and in regard of his emoluments by increasing his salary out of the perpetual annuity, and thereby also greatly benefiting the Colony itself.

(Signed) J. S. W.

The Undersigned beg leave to forward to his Excellency this Minute, as arranged at the interview which, in endeavouring to aid the Governor in amending the Constitution of the Colony, they recently had the honour of having with his Excellency and the honourable members of the Executive Committee.

(Signed) JOSEPH STONE WILLIAMS,
Member of Assembly for Westmorland

I concur generally save in the respects alluded to in my letter of the 8th December, 1865.

(Signed) RAYNES W. SMITH.

I have no objection to state that, in my opinion, the primary object of the measure to get rid of the House of Assembly as a separate Legislative Body.

(Signed) J. S. WILLIAMS.

December 8, 1865.

Inclosure 8 in No. 58.

Protest by Mr. Moncrieffe.

(Extract.) *In the Legislative Council, December* 7, 1865.

THE Honourable Mr. Moncrieffe having dissented to the passing of the Bill from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island," in his place handed in his reasons for such his dissent.

2. "I dissent from the principle of this Bill, because political history proves that in a Legislature consisting of a single Chamber there is no check to passionate, precipitate, and capricious laws, and to the tyrannous domination of majorities over minorities."

(Signed) PETER MONCRIEFFE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 58.

Memorandum of Agreement as to Basis of Constitution Act.

ONE Chamber. Governor to have veto.

Twelve members elected; four from Cornwall; four from Middlesex; three from Surry; one from Kingston. Not to be holders of any office of emolument under the Crown.

Twelve members to be nominated by the Crown, of whom one only to be an office-holder, viz., the Attorney-General.

Members of the Executive to be chosen from the whole Council, without exception; only the Attorney-General not to be so appointed.

Propositions left to the Crown to send out two Commissioners at 2,000*l.* a-year each, to replace the Executive Committee. In the event of the Crown declining, the existing system of Executive Committee to continue. Qualification:—300*l.* on land; 500*l.* income; or 30*l.* taxes.

Franchise.—Voters to have vote in only one county or town at any election. He shall not be able to vote in two or more counties, although possessing the qualification:—

Any freehold of 30*l.* per annum; rent charge, 30*l.* per annum; house rental, 30*l.* per annum; salary not less than 100*l.* per annnm; or, taxes not less than 5*l.* per annum.

Dissolution every seven years.

Power of dissolving at will.

Crown nominees to go with the other members.

Inclosure 10 in No. 58.

Minute by Mr. Westmorland.

I DO not think that the advocates of the nominee Chamber can do better than agree to the terms as arranged yesterday in the presence of his Excellency the Governor in order to carry out the great object, the abolishing of the Assembly.

2. Mr. Allwood should prepare the necessary clauses to carry out the alterations, and be printed for Tuesday morning.

But it appears to me that the proposed franchise is too low, the 50*l.* in the original Bill having been reduced to 30*l.*

3. Care must be taken with respect to the 5*l.* tax qualification, that property is not borrowed for the purpose. There should be a heavy penalty in such cases,—borrower and borrowee.

4. I think one Commissioner from England quite sufficient. Had my proposition in 1854 to limit the number of Executive Committee to one in the House and one in the Council been adopted, I think much party work would have been avoided.

5. In recommending this course, I have not altered in my opinion one jot any. Many of those who are now opposed to a nominee Council will live to change their opinions, and wish the Government measure had been carried in its integrity.

(Signed) H. W.

November 17, 1865.

I quite concur that a Nominee Council would be best, and that many of those who now advocate a partly elective one will live to change their opinion; but I feel satisfied that in the present state of feeling and opinion on the subject, the Government cannot carry a purely nominee Council, and that it is better and wiser to get a half-nominated and half-elected Chamber, than to lose all and let the existing state of things continue.

The other points are matters chiefly of detail.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

November 17, 1865.

Inclosure 11 in No. 58.

Minute by Mr. Hosack.

I AM prepared to do anything in order to abolish the Assembly.

I, however, have no expectation that a new Chamber, half elected and half

nominated, would give a strong Government, nor that a Chamber so constituted would reform itself when once formed.

2. I firmly believe that a Chamber entirely nominated by the Crown would give a strong Government.

3. The Government should, I think, not give up the seventh clause of the amended Bill, nor if defeated on it give up the whole Bill, because the Home Government have the power to send us a new Constitution, and might under the extraordinary circumstances of the case do so, and would have plenty of time to do so, rather than allow an imperfect Constitution Act to become law, or send it back for amendment.

4. The elective franchise can no longer be safely entrusted to an ignorant, rebellious people, such as the mass of the people of Jamaica, after all that has happened. The present franchise would, if the Assembly be continued, very soon fill the Assembly with men without character, property, or education; so that the Home Government would very soon be compelled to interfere, to prevent anarchy and confusion, while such an interference might lead to the same fearful consequences which followed the intervention of the French National Assembly with the Constitution of Saint Domingo.

(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

November 29, 1865.

P.S.—I showed the above to Mr. Westmorland and Dr. Hamilton.

W. H.

No. 59.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(No. 329.) (Answered No. 13, January 1, 1866, page 258.)

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 341* of the 17th ultimo in reply to mine, No. 251† of the 20th October, reporting the breaking out of a rebellion of the negroes in the eastern districts of Jamaica and the steps taken to repress and punish it.

2. It is very gratifying to me to learn that you approve of the course pursued by me under this great and painful emergency, and that the narrative I was enabled to give amidst the interruptions and pressure of the circumstances under which I was placed, has conveyed to you a clear idea of the occurrences which took place.

3. I shall have much pleasure in making known to the inhabitants of Jamaica the feeling expression conveyed in your despatch of the sympathy entertained by Her Majesty's Government towards those who have sustained family bereavements in the late distressing events, and with regard to the losses which the Colony in general has been subjected to. I feel assured that this sympathy will be highly valued by the unfortunate sufferers.

4. It will be an agreeable duty to me to inform the parties interested of your intention to bring under the notice of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-chief and the Lords of the Admiralty the services rendered by Her Majesty's military and naval forces, and your appreciation of the good conduct of the well-affected subjects of Her Majesty and of the Maroons.

5. With regard to the various letters which accompanied my despatch and to certain passages in some of them which you say call for further explanation and justification, I have to remark that whilst all the general arrangements for the suppression and punishment of the rebellion were made under my own immediate direction, the subordinate details and the internal management of the districts under martial law, including the appointment of Courts-martial, the trial of prisoners, the approval of sentences, and the carrying out of such sentences, vested entirely with the military authorities, were reported to the General in command, and only partially came under my notice in a general manner through the letters to which you refer.

Many of these letters I only obtained a hurried glance at when overwhelmed with the labour and anxiety of the most pressing events; and although copies were eventually furnished to me, most of these only reached me just in time to be appended to my despatch without my being enabled to have other copies made for my own use.

6. After despatching the October mail, the thought, work, and anxiety entailed in

* Page 239. † Page 1.

arranging for the safety and protection of the western districts of the Colony absorbed my attention from a very early hour in the morning to a very late one at night, and even during the few brief hours that I attempted to obtain rest there was rarely a night during which I was not called up at all hours, one, two, or three times, by expresses from one place or another, requiring me to get up at once and reply to or give directions connected with such communications.

Added to this was the ordinary work of the Colony, the correspondence with the subordinate Governments, and the preparation for and the current work of a most important legislative session.

7. I mention these particulars only to show the pressure that was upon me (a pressure which has seriously affected my health), and how impossible it was for me to scrutinize or investigate carefully the details of the enormous mass of papers which were continually coming before me.

As regards those connected with the rebellion, my desire was to place you in possession of the fullest and most complete information with the least possible delay, and in order to effect this I was often obliged to transmit documents which had been but hastily glanced at without analyzing or reporting upon them, and without retaining copies.

I will now endeavour to procure such copies and read through the correspondence with the view of calling for fuller information upon such points as seem to require explanation or justification; but I should be obliged by your also causing me to be informed of the particulars in regard to which you desire further reports, so that nothing may be omitted which it is in my power to do to place all the circumstances in a clear manner before you.

8. It is very probable that some occurrences may have taken place which cannot be justified during the prevalence of martial law, and where so much was necessarily left to the discretion of, or where an unforeseen responsibility was by circumstances forced upon, subordinate authorities, differing greatly in character, ability, temper, experience, and judgment.

Such cases can only be sincerely deplored. It would have been impossible, under the excitement and urgency of the circumstances attending the outbreak, to have either guarded against or prevented their taking place.

It must be remembered, too, that the threatening accounts received from the other districts of the Colony and the limited means of meeting any difficulties which might arise there made it a matter of simple self-defence that the outbreak in the east should both be put down with the least possible delay and be punished in the most summary manner. The safety, in fact the preservation, of the Colony made this imperative.

9. As regards the general features of and mode of carrying out the retribution which was so necessarily and justly dealt to those who were principals in this most cruel and unprovoked insurrection, I do not doubt but that ample justification will be forthcoming by the officers under whose immediate directions and supervision it took place.

Those officers were Major-General O'Connor in Kingston, Brigadier-General Nelson in the districts east of Morant Bay, and Colonel Hobbs in the district north-west of Morant Bay.

The high rank and character of all these officers is, I think, a full guarantee that nothing improper or unjust took place with their knowledge or sanction; and I do not doubt but that they will be ready and able to afford full explanation and justification upon any points which, without such further information, may at present seem unsatisfactory.

10. If I recollect aright there was in one of Colonel Hobbs' own letters a statement to the effect that having some prisoners whom he could not take with him, he had found it necessary to shoot them.

I presume this implies after trial by Court-martial, and either upon their being taken in arms against the Queen, or upon direct testimony of their complicity in the rebellion.

It must be remembered that the military officers in the field wrote under great disadvantages, and when worn out in body and mind by the fatigues and anxieties of the day.

Under such conditions their reports could scarcely be expected to contain all the details which it is desirable to know.

With regard to Colonel Hobbs there may also have been circumstances connected with his position which made an immediate decision with regard to his prisoners essential; for I distinctly remember in another of his despatches that he stated he was surrounded by thousands of rebels, that his position was very precarious, and that he required immediate reinforcements.

A copy of this report was refused to me by General O'Connor, as notified in a communication from the Deputy Adjutant-General, which I duly transmitted to you.

11. Since the receipt of your despatch, I have had no time or opportunity to communicate with any of the military authorities, and I am now therefore only writing from the impressions made upon my own mind at the time; but as soon as I can get together fresh copies of the letters which I forwarded to you, I will lose no time in seeking direct explanations upon such points as may seem to require them, through General O'Connor.

Brigadier-General Nelson is now in England, and will be able to afford personally any information required in reference to the occurrences in the eastern districts over which he was placed in command during the prevalence of martial law.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 60.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, December* 8, 1865.

I HAVE had the honour to receive the draft of a confidential despatch, proposed to be written to me in reply to my confidential despatch of the 24th October, pointing out the necessity of an immediate change in the Constitution of Jamaica, and recommending that if the existing Legislature refused to make such a change Parliament should be appealed to.

2. My despatch No. 313* of the 7th instant announced to you that, after great difficulty, I had succeeded in passing through the Legislature an Act abolishing the existing Constitution, and creating in the place of it a single Chamber of twenty-four members, one half of whom are to be nominated by Her Majesty and the other half elected by the counties and by the city of Kingston.

All office-holders (excepting one) are excluded from sitting in such Chamber, either as nominees or as elected members, but to compensate for this the nominees only hold their appointments during the existence of the Chamber, which may be dissolved by the Governor at any time, and must expire at the end of seven years.

This provision gives the Governor a very necessary control over the nominee portion of the Chamber.

The Governor has also the power to choose an Executive Committee of two, either from the nominated or elected members, and if he takes them, or either of them, from the elected members, it, of course, strengthens the Government to that extent.

From the tenor of your confidential draft I conclude that this form of Legislature is one in which you are prepared to acquiesce; though you appear to agree with me in thinking that a purely Nominee Council, consisting of twelve members, as in Trinidad, would have been better and more suitable to the present state and requirements of Jamaica.

3. There is no reason why, if Her Majesty's Government regard this as an important point, an appeal should not even now be made to Parliament, and the grounds for doing so will be both strengthened and simplified by the fact that the Legislature of the Colony has itself fully recognised the necessity of a radical change being made from the existing state of things, and has actually passed an Act making such change.

4. The great advantages of a Nominee Council would be, first, that as there would be no elections there could be no agitation raised from time to time amongst the people by political demagogues under the cloak of electioneering; but, secondly, by having one-half of the Council composed of office-holders under the Crown, the Government would be able to counteract the preponderance in favour of the planting interests, which would necessarily exist in such a Chamber as that created by the Act to alter and amend the Constitution. In this latter there can be no office-holders, and, therefore, the Governor will be driven to select, and the people to elect, chiefly planters.

There are very few merchants or professional men who would be qualified, and at the same time fit, to undertake the duties and responsibilities of Legislators under the new Act.

This is a very important point to bear in mind, considering that one class, numerically small, would consequently have to legislate for the mass of the population, and for other interests as well as for their own.

5. It is for you to consider whether the power of removing any obnoxious nominees

* Page 196.

by a dissolution would exercise a sufficient check over that portion of the Chamber so a to prevent their legislation having too much of a class character.

I believe the Colony at large would cheerfully acquiesce in Parliament's overriding the action which has been taken by the Local Legislature, and that a considerable number of the members of both branches of that Legislature would themselves approve of such a course.

6. Had I in the first instance been certain that Her Majesty's Government would have sanctioned an appeal to Parliament, I should have had no difficulty in getting an address to Her Majesty passed by the Legislature, praying that such appeal might be made, or even in getting an Act passed to abolish the existing Constitution, and authorise the Queen to create a new Constitution by an Order in Council without reference to Parliament at all.

Several members were inclined to adopt this course, but in view of the ordinary policy and practice which has of late years characterised the Colonial Office, I felt it my duty to point out that it was probable that Her Majesty's Government would inform the Colonists that if they desired a change in their Constitution it would be necessary for them to make it themselves, for doing which they had full and ample powers, and that it might reasonably be urged that with their local experience and knowledge they ought to know better what form of government was best suited to the state and requirements of the Colony than any one else could at a distance, and not possessing these advantages.

7. It would now probably be impracticable to get such an enactment in the face of the Act recently passed. Moreover, the most influential members of the Legislature have returned, or are returning, to their homes in the country, which they do not like to leave at the Christmas season, and especially under the unsettled state of feeling which still pervades the negro population.

Should you, however, wish me to make the attempt, and authorise me to state the views of the Government as to the best course to be taken, and as to the form of Constitution which is considered best suited to Jamaica under present circumstances, I shall use my best endeavours to give effect to whatever wishes you may express, and at all events there would always be the new Act sent by the present mail to fall back upon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 61.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received December* 30.)

(Answered, January 1, 1866, page 259.)

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, December* 9, 1865.

FOR many months past my health has been suffering from a too long continued residence in a tropical climate, whilst the unceasing anxiety and overwork occasioned by the late rebellion have so far increased this indisposition that I feel a change of climate and a few months of comparative rest are necessary to enable me to recruit.

I shall be much obliged, therefore, if you would kindly grant me a year's leave of absence, to commence about the 20th April next, by which period I hope public matters will be so far arranged here as to admit of my leaving without the public service being inconvenienced.

I sincerely trust that the steps taken to secure the public tranquillity will prove effectual, and that by the date I have named the first session of the new Legislature may be over, and such measures passed as are of pressing importance, so that whoever you may appoint to administer the Government during my absence may have as little trouble or difficulty as possible in conducting it.

In soliciting your favourable consideration of my application for leave of absence, I would respectfully remark that my service in the West Indies has extended over a very considerable period of time, first at St. Vincent, to which I was appointed in October 1854, subsequently at Antigua, to which I was appointed in April 1859, and latterly at Jamaica, where I assumed the Government in March 1862. I shall thus have served, before my leave would come into operation (if granted), over four years of continuous resident service in the administration of the Government of Jamaica, in addition to my previous tropical service in the other Islands named.

The records of the Colonial Office will also show that these last four years have been a period of unparalleled difficulty, anxiety, and hard work, in a Colony long noted as the most turbulent and unmanageable of all Her Majesty's dominions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S. * * * * *

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 341.)

Sir, *Downing Street, November* 17, 1865.

BY the mail from the West Indies, the arrival of which did not take place till yesterday, I have received your despatch No. 251* of the 20th October last, reporting the breaking out of a rebellion of the negroes in the eastern districts of Jamaica, which has involved the cruel massacre of many of the principal white and coloured persons in that part of the island, and acquainting me with the measures which, in concert with the officers in command of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, you have taken to suppress the insurrection, and to prevent its spreading to other parts of the island.

I have been greatly shocked at the barbarities which you describe, and I wish you, in the first place, to inform the inhabitants of Jamaica how deeply Her Majesty's Government deplore the losses which the Colony in general has sustained, and how sincerely they sympathise with those who have to lament family bereavements incurred under circumstances so distressing.

I have next to convey to you my high approval of the spirit, energy, and judgment with which you have acted in your measures for repressing and preventing the spread of the insurrection.

I have also to express my gratification at the clear and succinct manner in which, under all the great difficulties of your position, you have been enabled to communicate to Her Majesty's Government the narrative of the transactions.

It was the first duty of your Government to take, as you did, effectual measures for the suppression of this horrible rebellion, and I congratulate you on the rapid success by which those measures appear to have been attended.

Time has not sufficed for any adequate examination of the reports which you have been able to send me by this mail; and no doubt you will have much further intelligence to communicate to me hereafter on the subject of the measures of severity to which you have felt it to be necessary to have recourse. If you had time in forwarding those inclosures to make yourself acquainted with all their contents, it will have been evident to you that they contain many passages which will require to be explained as soon as there shall be sufficient leisure for the writers to explain fully the proceedings to which they relate. In the mean time I rely on your high character and on the character of the officers by whose efficient aid you have repressed rebellion and restored safety, and receive with much satisfaction your assurance that these measures will prove to have been a merciful substitute for the much larger measure of punishment which would have had to be executed had the rebellion been allowed time to gather head and extend itself.

I entirely agree with you that measures of severity, when dictated by necessity and justice, are in reality measures of mercy, and do not doubt it will appear that you have arrested the course of punishment as soon as you were able to do so, and have exerted yourself to confine it meanwhile to ascertained offenders and to cases of aggravated guilt. I observe with pleasure the hope you express that if no further outbreak occurs you will, in a short time, have been able to proclaim a general amnesty except to actual murderers.

I will not fail to bring under the notice of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief and the Lords of the Admiralty the high sense you entertain of the services rendered by Major-General O'Connor and Captain De Horsey, R.N., and the other officers of the army and navy whom you mention, and of the soldiers, sailors, and marines under their orders. And it is with the greatest satisfaction that I receive the high and,

* *Vide* page 1.

I doubt not, deserved commendation which you bestow upon the members of the Executive Council, the Custos at Kingston, Inspector Ramsay of the police, the volunteers, and the militia officers who accompanied you in the "Wolverine."

I recognize with great satisfaction the alacrity with which the well-affected subjects of Her Majesty placed themselves at your disposal, and I shall bring under Her Majesty's special notice the loyal and gallant behaviour of the Maroons.

The "Constance" frigate will sail for Jamaica in a few days, and will call at Barbados on her way out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 2.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 343.)

Sir, *Downing Street, November* 23, 1865.

I AVAIL myself of the sailing of the "Constance" frigate to address you on the subject of those enclosures in your despatch of the 20th of October* to which I referred in my last despatch as requiring explanation, but which there was not time adequately to examine during the brief interval of the mail.

I rely on the assurances conveyed to me in your despatch, and do not doubt that no time will have been lost in checking at the earliest possible moment those measures of instant severity which only an overwhelming sense of public danger justifies, and in returning to the ordinary course of legal inquiry, and of the judicial trial and punishment of offenders. It remains, therefore, now to examine the statements contained in those inclosures; and in doing so I shall bear in mind the pressure under which they were written, and the great probability that much remains to be said in those cases which, so far as they are yet before me, require explanation; cases in which, without such explanation, the severity inflicted would not appear to have been justifiable. In calmly reviewing, when the danger is believed to be over, all the occurrences of an outbreak in which the spread of the insurrection over the whole island was apprehended, with the massacre of all the principal inhabitants, great allowance must be made for acts which have resulted from that apprehension. Her Majesty's Government will not fail to bear this consideration in mind in the judgment which they will ultimately form upon all the circumstances of the present case.

I have to request that you will furnish me with copies of the proceedings of the Courts-martial, and of the evidence taken in the several cases. These documents are referred to in your despatch and the inclosures, but it was no doubt impossible that you should have been prepared to forward them by the last mail.

On the case of Mr. Gordon I have addressed you in a separate despatch.

That your attention may be drawn to the nature of the cases which require explanation, I have caused several passages from the reports of the military officers to be extracted and copied in the enclosed memorandum. I request that you will furnish me with all the particulars in your power on the subjects to which they relate, and with any other information which may tend to elucidate the whole course of these proceedings. It is my earnest hope that they may be capable of full explanation, and that I may be able to express, as I should desire, without qualification or exception on account of these circumstances, the commendation to which the officers and men are entitled at the hands of Her Majesty's Government for the promptitude and vigour with which they suppressed the insurrection and prevented its extension to the other districts of the island.

In conclusion, I have to assure you that Her Majesty's Government will await the explanations for which I have called with all the confidence to which your high character fully entitles you, and with the greatest consideration for the painful anxieties and difficulties of the position in which you have been placed. I have also to repeat the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that long before this despatch or that which I addressed to you by the mail can have reached you, the Colony will have been restored to safety, and you will have been able to return to the ordinary course of public justice and to the regular administration of the law.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* *Vide* page 1.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Memorandum of passages referred to in the preceding Despatch.

IN his report to Major-General O'Connor, dated 15th October, 1865, Colonel Hobbs writes: "We, however, secured six persons, whom I would have shot but from the fact of their being unarmed. I now regret I did not do so, as they are no doubt rebels. We have, however, killed between fifteen and twenty of them at extraordinarily long distances, having discovered since several groups of them on the hill-sides, and in trees."

Again, in his further Report, dated 19th October, Colonel Hobbs says: "I have reached Stony Gut from my Head-quarters, Moncklands, having shot a number of rebels on the way. I have directed this rebellious settlement to be utterly destroyed."

In his report dated 19th October, midnight, he writes: "I found a number of special constables, who had captured a number of prisoners from the rebel camp. Finding their guilt clear, and being unable to either take or leave them, I had them all shot. The constables then hung them up on trees—eleven in number. Their countenances were all diabolical, and they never flinched the very slightest. From this we at once went to Stony Gut, and to be brief, can only say that had the rebels been brave and met us there, not a man of the 6th Regiment would have returned to tell the tale." Again, he speaks of having utterly destroyed "this (Bogle's) vile and rebellious settlement."

Further in the same despatch: "I have in my possession the most conclusive proof of Mr. G. W. Gordon being a chief mover in this rebellion, and have sent an express to Morant Bay requesting him to be sent to me (if there) for execution, and request you to give this publicity." And again, "I must not forget to tell you that I have Paul Bogle's valet for my guide, a little fellow of extraordinary intelligence; a light rope tied to the stirrup, and a revolver now and then to his head, causes us thoroughly to understand each other, and he knows every single rebel in the Island by name and face, and has just been selecting the captains, colonels, and secretaries out of an immense gang of prisoners just come in here, whom I shall have to shoot to-morrow morning."

Captain Hole reports on 17th October, 1865: "On arriving yesterday at Long Bay I found the huts full of plunder. I had every house within a quarter of a mile of the road in which plunder was found fired, and in doing so upwards of twenty of the rebels were killed. After remaining about an hour I pushed on for Manchioneal. The rebels were firing some of the houses in front, and everywhere fled at our approach. A house called the Cottage was in flames. Within a mile of us every black man who did not stand at our approach to give an account of himself was shot." . . . "I am of opinion that upwards of sixty rebels were killed yesterday by the troops under my command, among whom I hear there are some ringleaders." . . . "I intend to have destroyed all houses in which proved rebels have resided."

In his subsequent report of 19th October, he states that "three men of the 1st West India Regiment * got separated from this party and proceeded as far as the Plantain Garden River District, and from their reports I learn a great number of rebels are lurking in that district. They informed me on their return last evening that they had shot about ten rebels, three of whom were concerned in the murder of Mr. Hire. They brought back with them two cartloads of recovered property, some of which belonged to Mr. Hire (as in one of the pockets of a coat I discovered the two accompanying letters) and some to Mr. Shortridge (the same being discovered by the crest on two plated teapots). They also brought in various other articles not yet identified. I consider that these three men have done good service."

No. 3.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 344.)

Sir, *Downing Street, November 23, 1865.*

IN Brigadier Nelson's despatch to Major-General O'Connor, of which a copy was transmitted in your despatch 20th–24th October,† it is stated that documents are enclosed proving the guilt of G. W. Gordon, the member of the Assembly who was tried by court-martial and executed. Colonel Hobbs also states in his despatches that he was in possession of additional evidence of Gordon's guilt. And in your own despatch (paragraph 48), you state that throughout your tour in the "Wolverine" and "Onyx" you

* Privates Beckley, Bates, and Moody. † Page 1.

had found everywhere the most unmistakeable evidence that Gordon had not only been mixed up in the matter, but was himself, through his own misrepresentations and seditious language, addressed to the ignorant black people, the chief cause and origin of the whole rebellion, and that you had therefore obtained a deposition on oath that certain seditious printed notices had been sent through the post-office, directed in his handwriting to the parties who had been leaders in the rebellion, and had thereupon caused him to be arrested and conveyed to Morant Bay, where he was tried and executed. You add that great difference of opinion prevailed in Kingston as to the policy of taking Mr. Gordon; that nearly all coincided in believing him to be the occasion of the rebellion, and that he ought to be taken, but many were apprehensive that his capture might lead to an immediate outbreak in Kingston itself. You state, however, that you did not share this feeling, and that you considered it right in the abstract, and desirable as a matter of policy, that whilst the poor black men who had been misled were undergoing condign punishment, the chief instigator of all the evil should not go unpunished, and you therefore at once took upon yourself the responsibility of his capture.

In your letter to Major-General O'Connor of the 22nd October, you approve the execution of Gordon, which had taken place under the orders of Brigadier-General Nelson, stating in this letter that you had little doubt that whatever Gordon's intentions might have been, the rebellion was entirely due to his agitation, bad advice, and seditious language.

It is necessary that Her Majesty's Government should be, as speedily as possible, placed in a position to understand the proceedings at every point, and that you should send me all documents and evidence which, though adverted to in your own and in Brigadier-General Nelson's and Colonel Hobbs's despatches, were not transmitted with the despatches adverting to them, or (in the case of Brigadier Nelson's despatch) purporting to enclose them.

I wish to know whether your approval of Gordon's execution rested on evidence of his participation in the insurrection itself, or the actual resistance of authority out of which it arose, or, as your letter to Major-General O'Connor might give occasion to suppose, on evidence of the lesser offence of using seditious and inflammatory language, calculated indeed to produce resistance to authority and rebellion, but without proof of any deliberate design of producing that result.

It is matter of obvious remark that Gordon was arrested at Kingston, to which martial law did not extend, and taken to Morant Bay for trial, under martial law. Her Majesty's Government await with much anxiety your explanation on this subject.

I desire also to see it clearly established that he was not executed until crimes had been proved in evidence against him which deserved death; and that the prompt infliction of capital punishment was necessary to rescue the Colony from imminent danger, and from the horrors of a general or wide-spread insurrection, and the repetition elsewhere of such a slaughter of the white and coloured colonists as had taken place in the eastern part of the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 4.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 345.)
Sir, *Downing Street, November* 23, 1865.

HER Majesty's Government have taken measures for replacing the troops withdrawn from the garrison of Nova Scotia for service in Jamaica, and those troops will therefore continue to be stationed in Jamaica for the present.

When circumstances shall permit, you will, no doubt, send back to Barbados, and concur with Major-General O'Connor in sending back to Nassau, the whole or a portion of the troops withdrawn from those garrisons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 5.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 348.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

IN your despatch No. 251* of the 20th of October, you say that you cannot doubt that the rebellion of the negroes in Jamaica is in a great degree due to Dr. Underhill's letter, and the meetings held in connection with it. That letter was originally addressed, not to discontented persons in Jamaica, but to me; and was by me forwarded to you for your report. I am desirous to know whether it was by your sanction that it first obtained publicity in Jamaica, and if not, what, so far as you know, were the circumstances under which it became the cause of political agitation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 6.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 349.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the numbers and dates noted in the margin,† forwarding copies of correspondence which has passed between Major-General O'Connor and yourself, as to the authority of the Governor and of the officer in command of Her Majesty's forces respectively, in matters relating to the disposition of the troops in the Colony.

I have pointed out to Earl de Grey that there is much danger to the Colony in the want of a good understanding which seems to exist on the part of Major-General O'Connor, of the limits of the authority of the Governor and General respectively, and his Lordship has taken such steps as enable me to assure you that no such danger will arise, and that the directions you may give respecting the march and disposition of the troops within your government will be promptly and cordially acted upon, and all information as to the proceedings adopted in pursuance of them be communicated to you without delay.

In thus procuring the interposition of the Secretary of State for War, my anxiety has been to guard against the risk which any doubt as to your ultimate authority might occasion. On the other hand, I feel assured that you will not fail to consult, and pay all due respect to, the opinion of the General in command; and I need scarcely point out to you the very serious responsibility which attaches to you if you order the troops into posts not approved by the General in command.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

P.S.—Since the above was written, the letters, of which copies are enclosed, have been received from the War Office.

E. C.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

The Under-Secretary of State for War to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir, *War Office, December* 1, 1865.

I AM directed by Earl de Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, with its enclosures, from the Governor of Jamaica, submitting for decision a question which had been raised by Major-General O'Connor as to the right assumed by Governor Eyre (as on the occasion of the recent despatch of Her Majesty's ship "Urgent" to Barbados) of applying to the Governor of another Colony for troops without previous communication with the Major-General.

In reply I am to request that you will acquaint Mr. Secretary Cardwell that Lord de Grey entirely concurs in the view of this question taken by Governor Eyre, namely, that the troops applied for in this instance being stationed in and forming part of the

* Page 1.

† No. 252, October 23 (page 41); No. 259, October 30 (page 61); No. 261, November 2 (page 63); No. 266, November 4 (page 82); No. 269, November 7, 1865 (page 90).

garrison of a distinct and separate command, over which the Major-General in Jamaica had no authority or control, the requisition was properly addressed by Governor Eyre himself to the Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands.

At the same time it is the duty of a Governor in such cases to communicate the proceeding immediately to the officer commanding, or with as little delay as circumstances would admit: and as a general rule, indeed, to consult him previously on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS GALTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

The Under-Secretary of State for War to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir, *War Office, December* 1, 1865.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting, for the consideration of Earl de Grey, copies of three despatches from Governor Eyre, with copies of correspondence with Major-General O'Connor respecting a question which has arisen as to the authority of the Governor to prescribe the distribution of Her Majesty's troops in the Island of Jamaica.

The views entertained by Lord de Grey upon the subject of the respective functions and duties of the Governor of a Colony and the officer commanding Her Majesty's troops, embodied in the letter from this Department of the 20th November last, have been so lately made known to Mr. Cardwell that it is unnecessary to do more in regard to the general question than to refer to that communication.

It is there laid down that as the supreme authority in each Colony is entrusted to the Governor, it is for him to determine the general nature of the operations to be undertaken by Her Majesty's troops for the suppression of rebellion, and to order such steps as the safety and welfare of the Colony may appear to him to require to be taken by the commander of the forces; while it is the duty of the officer in command of the troops to obey such orders as he may receive from the Governor, and to adopt such military measures as may be best calculated to give effect to them.

If the officer in command of the troops should feel any objection upon military grounds to the measures ordered by the Governor, he is entitled, and it would be his duty, clearly to make known those objections to the Governor; but if the Governor, upon his own responsibility, should think fit, in spite of these objections, to adhere to his original orders, it would then be the duty of the officer in command of the troops to make the best military dispositions in his power in order to carry them out.

A communication to this effect shall be addressed to Major-General O'Connor by the present mail; but Lord de Grey has learnt with much satisfaction that Mr. Cardwell intends, upon his part, to instruct the Governor of Jamaica to consult, and pay all due respect to, the opinion of the General in command in that Colony, as his Lordship agrees with Mr. Cardwell that very serious responsibility will attach to the Governor if he orders the troops into posts not approved by the General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS GALTON.

No. 7.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 353.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 253* of the 23rd October, reporting the circumstances under which, with the approval of your Executive Committee, you thought it right to examine some of the letters arriving by the last mail from England, for certain Baptist ministers in Jamaica.

At a moment when the Colony was placed, as you say, in imminent jeopardy, it was doubtless within the discretion of the executive authorities to resort to such a measure.

I trust, however, that order having been restored, no further interception of letters passing either to or from the Colony will have been thought necessary. The objections

* Page 46.

to any interference with the free course of private correspondence are obvious, and it is only under very exceptional circumstances that such a departure from ordinary practice can be justified.

The letter from Dr. Underhill which you enclosed to me has been returned to the writer, and I have to instruct you to forward any other letters which may have been detained, to the persons for whom they were destined, unless in any instance you should have the strongest reasons for believing that serious mischief would follow.

However reasonable may be the apprehensions which you express as to the general effect of injudicious and inflammatory language upon an excitable and imperfectly instructed people, it is not easy to see what steps can be taken for the prevention of the evil. The measure which you suggest is not one to which I should wish you to have recourse. The repression of overt proceedings might lead to secret proceedings not less, but more dangerous; and the banishment of persons who are known, and may be made responsible to the law, might have the effect of devolving their influence upon persons who are more obscure, and less amenable to observation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 8.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 354.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 257* of the 28th October, enclosing a communication addressed to me, by the Rev. J. E. Henderson, the Rev. Walter Dendy, and the Rev. James Reid.

I request that you will inform these gentlemen that I have received their communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 9.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 355.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 256† and 260‡ of the 28th and 31st of October, respecting the publication, by Major-General O'Connor, without your consent, in the "Tribune" newspaper, of an official communication from yourself respecting certain measures to be taken in the suppression of the negro insurrection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 10.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 356.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

IN my despatch of the number and date mentioned in the margin§ I called your attention to passages requiring explanation in the reports of officers employed against the insurgent negroes, and to the absence of the minutes of proceedings of courts-martial which one of the despatches addressed to you by Major-General O'Connor had purported to enclose.

I have now received your further despatches enumerated in the margin,‖ but they do not contain any minutes of the evidence taken by the courts-martial. No doubt the extreme pressure of business consequent on the insurrection and attendant on the

* Page 53. † Page 52. ‡ Page 62.

§ No. 343, November 23, 1865 (page 240).

‖ No. 262, November 2 (page 72); Nos. 264 and 265, November 3 (pages 75 and 79); Nos. 268 and 271, November 7 (pages 85 and 106); Nos. 272 and 275, November 8, 1865 (pages 130 and 149).

meeting of the Legislature must account for the absence of these enclosures, and render your present reports in some points incomplete. I assign to this cause that many important points are still unexplained on which it is necessary that Her Majesty's Government should be in possession of all the information that can be given.

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Admiralty, with a copy of a despatch from Commodore Sir Leopold M'Clintock, dated the 8th November. This officer states that it will be impossible to ascertain the total loss of life in the insurrection, but that 1,500 would perhaps be a moderate computation; that, at the date of his letter, arrests were being daily made, and the prisoners sent to Morant Bay, and a large proportion of them hanged.

I enclose also extracts from a report made by Lieutenant Adcock, of the 6th Regiment, dated 25th of October, and transmitted to Lord De Grey in a despatch from Major-General O'Connor, of which I enclose a copy, dated the 7th November; and I enclose an extract from a newspaper of a letter purporting to have been written by Captain Ford, in command of the St. Thomas in the East irregular troop. These extracts, equally with those accompanying my despatch of the 23rd November, require explanation. I should be glad to learn that the letter in the newspaper is not authentic, and if any official reports have been made by Captain Ford, I should wish to be furnished with copies of them.

And, in reference not only to the particular reports adverted to in this and in my former despatch, but to the proceedings generally, I am desirous to point to the main topics which, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, demand your report:—

1. The number of persons tried, and of those sentenced by courts-martial, specifying the charge and sentence, and whether or not the sentence was executed, and under whose authority, and whether minutes were taken of the evidence on which the sentence was founded in each case; all minutes of evidence so taken to be appended to the return. The return should show also at what places and times respectively the offences were charged to have been committed, and the accused persons were arrested or captured and tried, specifying in each case whether the offence was committed before or during martial law, whether the arrest or capture was made during martial law, and in a place to which martial law extended; and if the person accused was arrested or captured in a place to which martial law did not extend, and removed to a place to which it did extend, there to be tried by martial law, and for an offence not committed during and under martial law, it should be stated by whose authority this was done, and whether under the advice of the Attorney-General of Jamaica.

2. Whether any persons were hanged, flogged, or otherwise punished without trial; and if so, by whom and under whose authority in each case, specifying the name, sex, colour, and quality of the person punished, the nature and date of the punishment, the nature and date of the offence, and the grounds on which it was assumed to have been committed.

3. The number of persons, so far as can be ascertained, who were shot in the field or in the bush, their names, sex, quality, and colour, and whether adults or children, specifying in all cases whether they were resisting or flying, whether armed or unarmed, and if armed, with what weapons, whether such as are used only for purposes of offence, or such as are used also in agricultural or other peaceful occupations.

4. Whether any and what oral or written instructions were given to officers in command of detachments sent in pursuit of rebels, whereby they might know on what evidence or appearances, other than hostile action or attitude, they were to assume that those they might meet with were rebels: and whether those officers, or any of them, were led by their instructions, or otherwise and without authority induced, to assume that all persons flying or hiding from pursuit, or all persons found with plunder, or all persons leaving their labour on plantations, were to be regarded as rebels and shot when met with. Copies of all written instructions should be furnished.

5. Colonel Fyfe being the only officer mentioned as employed with the Maroons, whilst divers parties of the Maroons appear to have been sent in various directions out of the immediate observation of Colonel Fyfe, was there any and what control exercised over the operations of those parties, and what was it expected that the nature of those operations would be; and of what nature, in point of fact, did those operations prove to be.

In your despatches, in the Addresses of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, and in the reports of the naval and military officers engaged in the suppression of the insurrection, the loyalty of the Maroons in resisting and defeating the efforts of the rebels has been spoken of in terms of grateful commendation, no doubt sincerely felt and well deserved; and I observe one of the measures now to be proposed to the

Legislature by one of the Members of your Executive Committee is intituled "A Bil to employ the Maroons as a permanent Auxiliary Militia Force."

I have, however, been greatly concerned to find in the enclosed despatch from Sir L. McClintock the following statement: "At least 800 were shot, chiefly by the Maroons, who entered with fierce zeal into the bush hunt after rebel negroes." I have to request your immediate attention to this subject. I trust it will appear that Sir L. McClintock has been misinformed, and that an impression so unfavourable to the employment of the Maroons—an impression which I certainly should never have derived from your despatches and those to which I have above referred—will not turn out to have been well founded.

It appears from your Speech to the Legislature, and from the Addresses of both its Branches in reply, that you and they were of opinion that there had existed a wide-spread and diabolical conspiracy to murder the white and mixed races, and amongst those races themselves this opinion would appear to be almost universal. Proofs of this conspiracy were adverted to as existing, but they are not to be found in the papers yet sent home. I request that you will furnish me with them as fully and completely as you can without delay.

In making these enquiries, I beg to be understood as directing your attention to the principal points on which I desire to be informed, and not as prejudging any person concerned in any proceeding.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir, *Admiralty, November* 29, 1865.

WITH reference to my letter of the 16th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Mr. Secretary Cardwell, a copy of a letter, dated the 8th instant, from Commodore Sir Leopold McClintock, with copies of its enclosures from Captain De Horsey, of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine," respecting the insurrection in Jamaica.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Commodore Sir F. Mc Clintock to Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope.

Sir, *"Aboukir," at Jamaica, November* 8, 1865.

BY the last mail Captain De Horsey forwarded to you full particulars, up to that period, of the proceedings consequent upon the massacre at Morant Bay on the 11th ultimo. In continuation I beg to inclose a copy of his letter dated 31st October, on which day I arrived here in Her Majesty's ship "Aurora."

I found Her Majesty's ships "Galatea" and "Wolverine" in port. The "Urgent," "Fawn," "Rosario," "Lily," "Cordelia," "Steady," and gun-boats "Onyx" and "Nettle," were employed at various ports round the island in assisting the military authorities in overawing malcontents, arresting and conveying rebels to the appointed places of trial, and in conveying small bodies of troops from port to port.

The insurrection had been completely quelled. I am informed that no white people were assaulted subsequent to the first fearful outrage on the 11th ultimo; and the following day, at Golden Grove, about 300 persons had been hanged, and at least 800 were shot, chiefly by the Maroons, who entered with fierce zeal into the bush-hunt after rebel negroes.

On the 30th ultimo Governor Eyre issued a proclamation pronouncing a general amnesty to all those who submitted, excepting only persons implicated in the late murders. It is also announced that martial law is to cease on the 13th instant.

The troops destined for Africa—about 140 in number—can be spared; and if they can be assembled at Kingston in time, the "Urgent" will convey them and proceed viâ Bermuda, in obedience to her original orders, this evening.

Arrests are daily being made. The prisoners are generally sent to Morant Bay for trial, and a large proportion of them are hanged. It will be impossible ever to ascertain

the total loss of life, as great numbers were shot down by the Maroons in the woods: 1,500 lives would perhaps be a moderate computation.

With reference to the fever on board the "Wolverine," alluded to in Captain De Horsey's letter, no less than 53 cases of low fever have been landed, and with one exception only, all of them are rapidly recovering.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. L. MC CLINTOCK.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Major-General O'Connor to the Right Hon. Secretary of State for War.

My Lord, *Head-Quarters, November 7, 1865.*

IN continuation of my despatch of 21st ultimo, I have the honour to report for your information that, through the energetic and judicious measures of Brigadier-General Nelson, and the patient, steady perseverance of the officers and men under his command, the rebellion has been entirely crushed in the eastern part of Jamaica, and prevented to a certain extent spreading among other disaffected parishes and districts.

His Excellency the Governor seems from time to time to apprehend danger from the inhabitants of Black River, Brown's Town, Mandeville, Vere, and has called for so many detachments as to render it a difficult task to meet the urgent demands of his Excellency from the very limited force at my command.

The arrival of the troops named in the margin* from Barbados and Nassau on the 25th ultimo, proved a seasonable reinforcement, and I have placed Colonel Whitfield, 2nd West India Regiment, an officer of long-tried experience in Jamaica, in command of the western district, with perfect confidence in his zeal and ability to carry out the measures I have adopted for the safety and welfare of this part of the island.

Not only was Uppark Camp, but Morant Bay, crowded with political prisoners and rebels, handed over by the civil authorities, captured in districts not under martial law, but whom the Governor and his Excellency's constitutional advisers desired might be tried by military Courts-martial.

Brigadier-General Nelson, entertaining some doubt as to the legality of this proceeding, called upon me for my opinion, which endorsed his own, that, although he might have the authority and power to try the prisoners, he would not be justified to bring them before a military Court-martial for political offences committed prior to the breaking out of the rebellion, attending or uttering treasonable language at seditious public meetings, their proceedings published and commented upon in newspapers, and whom the Government, either from weakness or mistaken lenity, did not at once arrest, thus operating as an indirect encouragement to the disaffected to persevere in their lawless designs.

I consider I adopted a safe and sound course, and the proof, his Excellency has not pressed the trial of the prisoners by the military authorities, but seeks the opinion of his Attorney-General to arraign them before civil tribunal.

I intend next Monday, the 13th instant, to proceed in a man-of-war on a tour to inspect all the military posts; in the first instance visiting the disturbed districts, and, aking Brigadier-General Nelson with me, go round the island. The course and extent will be seen from the map inclosed.

Mr. Bent, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and Lieutenant-Colonel Manor, C.R.E., will accompany me.

I leave Lieutenant-Colonel Elkington, 2nd battalion 6th Royal Regiment, Deputy Adjutant-General, in command at head-quarters, Kingston, and to carry on the duties of the garrison.

In conclusion no doubt rests upon my mind that when an investigation is instituted to trace this most important rebellion to its true origin, your Lordship will find that Her Majesty's troops in Jamaica have fully and faithfully performed every duty demanded of them, and, according to the universal expression of the community, proved the means of saving the colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

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* Royal Artillery:—1 captain, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 44 rank and file; 2 9-pounder field guns. 2nd Battalion 3rd Buffs:—1 captain, 5 subalterns, 8 serjeants, 2 drummers, 136 rank and file. 2nd West India Regiment:—2 field-officers, 3 captains, 8 subalterns, 25 serjeants, 5 drummers, 282 rank and file. 1st West India Regiment:—1 field-officer, 2 captains, 6 subalterns, 10 serjeants, 6 drummers, 185 rank and file; 4 assistant-surgeons; 2 commissariat officers.

Inclosure 4 in No. 10.

Lieutenant Adcock to Major-General O'Connor.

(Extract.) *Morant Bay, October* 25, 1865.

I BURNT seven houses in all, but did not even see a rebel during the day.

On returning to Golden Grove in the evening sixty-seven prisoners had been sent in by the Maroons. I disposed of as many as possible, but was too tired to continue after dark.

On the morning of the 24th I started for Morant Bay, having first flogged four and hung six rebels. I beg to state that I did not meet a single man upon the road up to Leith Hall. There were a few prisoners here, all of whom I flogged and proceeded to John's Town and Beckford. At the latter place I burnt seven houses and meeting-house, in the former four houses.

Inclosure 5 in No. 10.

Newspaper Extract.

CAPTAIN FORD, in command of the St. Thomas in the East Irregular Troop, writes as follows:—

"On our march from Morant Bay we shot 2 prisoners, and catted 5 or 6 and released them, as these latter were only charged with being concerned in plundering, not murders. When we reached Golden Grove we met skirmishers from the Manchioneal party, reporting their arrival at the Suspension Bridge. As we had determined on making this our head-quarters, our commander sent off to order them to join us here, which they did; that company consisted of about 40 of the 1st West Indian Regiment, under Lieutenant Cullen and Dr. Morris. This morning we made raid with 30 men, all mounted, and got back to head-quarters at 4 P.M., bringing in a few prisoners, and having flogged 9 men and burned 3 negro houses, and then had a court-martial on the prisoners, who amounted to about 50 or 60. Several were flogged without court-martial, from a simple examination. One man, John Anderson, a kind of parson and schoolmaster, got 50 lashes; 9 were convicted by court-martial; one of them to 100 lashes, which he got at once; the other eight to be hanged or shot; but it was then quite dark, so their execution is postponed till morning. G. W. Gordon had his b ack coat and vest taken from him as a prize by one of the soldiers, also his spectacles by another; so you will see he was very little differently treated from the common herd. I am told that one of his cattle at Rhine is killed every day for the benefit of the people and constables in Bath, and to-day we sent there and fetched away one for this party. We quarter on the enemy as much as possible; small stock, turkeys, &c., we take *ad libitum;* other supplies we give receipts for. We press all the horses and saddles we can find; but the black troops are more successful than ours in catching horses, nearly all of them are mounted. They shot about 160 people on their march from Port Antonio to Manchioneal, hanged 7 in Manchioneal, and shot 3 on their way here. This is a picture of martial law; the soldiers enjoy it, the inhabitants have to dread it; if they run on their approach, they are shot for running away. The contents of all the houses we have been in, except only this very house, but including the barracks, have been reduced to a mass of broken and hacked furniture, with doors and windows smashed by the rebels."

No. 11.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 357.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 262 of the 2nd November,* enclosing the proclamation of amnesty which you have issued.

Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your having proclaimed an amnesty, and are glad to learn that martial law would cease on the 13th ultimo. They sincerely trust that no occasion will again arise for placing any portion of the Colony under martia

* Page 72.

law, and they are confident that nothing but the most urgent and manifest da ger to the community will induce you to have recourse to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 12.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 358.)
Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches Nos. 284, 285, and 286, of the 8th and 9th of November,* enclosing copies of the speech which you delivered to the Legislature of Jamaica, and the replies of the two branches, on the opening of the Legislative Session.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 13.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 1, 1865.

IN the day which intervened between the arrival and departure of the last mails, I was unable to reply with sufficient deliberation to your despatch of the 24th October,† to which I now therefore revert.

The delay has enabled me to receive your despatches Nos. 284, 285, and 286, of the 8th and 9th November,* enclosing your address to the Legislature on the opening of the Session, and the answers returned to it by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly.

If the fact of the revolt should lead to the reconstitution of the Legislature by its own act, the community may receive some compensation in future good government for the calamity with which it has just been afflicted. For many years the disposition and practice of the Crown has been rather to devolve on Colonial Representative Bodies the powers and responsibilities of government than either to keep the power it possessed or to assume powers and responsibilities which had not hitherto belonged to it. But in a case in which local self-government is incompatible with the welfare and even the safety of the Colony, there would be no hesitation on the part of Her Majesty's Government, if called upon by the colonists, to accept such an amount of additional responsibility as the circumstances might seem to require.

You consider the choice to lie between a wholly nominated Council, like that of Trinidad, and a Council partly nominated and partly elective.

A nominated Council would probably best give effect to the object which the Legislature will have in view in altering its own Constitution; but while I should be ready to acquiesce in a Council partly nominated and partly elective, I should not approve a Council in which a small number of elected members should have a majority of votes. Where there is no wide basis for constituent and representative power and responsibility to rest upon, there is no eligible alternative but to vest power and responsibility substantially in the Crown. This is done in Trinidad, where the Council consists of six official and six unofficial members, with a casting vote in the Governor. The control which the Colonists possess over the proceedings of the Governor and his officers consists in the free exposition of adverse views in debate, and the right of recording protests which the Governor is bound to transmit to the Secretary of State. The ultimate control over the Local and Home Government alike is to be found in the power of appealing to Parliament, which is at all times ready to listen to complaints of an undue exercise of authority on the part of the Minister of the Crown.

If the Legislature of Jamaica should not be found willing to devolve its powers upon a body thus constituted, you suggest that Parliament should be applied to for the purpose of rescuing the Colony from the evils and dangers to which, under its present form of government, it has been exposed.

In the numerous communications which you have received and transmitted in the

* Pages 162, 165, and 166. † Page 50.

course of the last twelve months, from persons of influence and good position, on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter, I have observed that there occurred repeatedly an expression of opinion that the existing constitution of the Local Legislature was unsuited to the circumstances of the Colony. If this has been a growing opinion hitherto, it may be reasonably expected that it will now be strengthened and developed.

I am of opinion that Parliament would listen with attention and respect to any expression of the views of any considerable portion of the more instructed and enlightened inhabitants of Jamaica.

But I think that Parliament would expect information on divers points in elucidation of such views and wishes:—

1st. The constitution of the Assembly as it now exists should be set forth; and this has been already done in the main by the analysis of its composition furnished in your despatch No. 303 of the 19th December, 1864, showing that if the City of Kingston be excluded, the members are elected on an average by twenty-two voters each; if included, by about thirty-one.

2nd. What have been the specific measures required for the well-being of the people which the Legislature has neglected or refused to enact.

3rd. Whether if such measures, or some of them, have not been proposed by the Government to the Legislature, the omission to propose them has arisen from the certainty that if proposed they would be rejected, and if so, the grounds on which this has been assumed to be certain; showing, if such be the fact, that a recommendation known to proceed either from the Home or the Local Government would often be more likely to defeat than to promote the desired enactment.

4th. What specific measures for the benefit of the people it is expected that a Legislature otherwise constituted than the present would enact: and these would probably fall under some such heads as the following;—

(*a.*) Measures of economy and fiscal reform, and the subjection of parochial as well as general expenditure to due supervision and control.

(*b.*) Measures for the better administration of justice by paid magistrates in the rural districts.

(*c.*) Measures for the improvement of the police and of the prisons.

(*d.*) Educational measures.

(*e.*) Poor laws; laws for facilitating the purchase of land in small lots; and other laws for promoting the industry and improving the condition of the peasantry.

If these and other measures are to be expected from a remodelled Legislature, either speedily or gradually and in the course of time, it would be desirable to show what expense they would involve, and in what manner the expense is to be met, consistently with giving to the unofficial members of the proposed Council, as Her Majesty's Government are accustomed to do in Colonies where the Legislature is so constituted, a decidedly influential voice in all matters of taxation and expenditure.

Being desirous to give you what assistance I can at the earliest possible moment, I have thus indicated briefly the topics which appear to me to be likely to be brought into discussion in the event of any proposal being made to Parliament for an alteration in the Constitution of Jamaica. But your own experience and local knowledge will no doubt greatly enlarge, and will serve also to rectify, the views of these matters which I have been led to entertain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 14.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 364.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from Mr. Cave, M.P., written on behalf of the West India Committee, together with a copy of the reply which has been returned to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Mr. Cave, M.P., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Sir, *West India Committee, Walbrook House, December* 8, 1865.

THE West India Committee received with profound sorrow the intelligence of the unhappy outbreak in Jamaica, and of the atrocities committed by the negroes, as well as the severe punishment which it was deemed necessary to inflict upon them. They deferred, however, addressing Her Majesty's Government, in the expectation that some more precise information might arrive. But they are now impelled by the general feeling of alarm and want of confidence which pervades all parties interested in the welfare of Jamaica, respectfully to inquire what are the measures contemplated by Her Majesty's Government in this unfortunate conjuncture. It is very strongly felt that the causes which led to this calamity, and the unsatisfactory condition of Jamaica even in comparison with the other West Indian Colonies, demand immediate and earnest attention.

It is at the same time obvious that any public inquiry into the state of the island, unless conducted with extreme caution, would have a tendency to unsettle the minds of so ignorant and excitable a people as the negroes. It has transpired that the reports of the Custodes which were made to the Governor, in consequence of a requisition from the Colonial Office, are in the possession of Her Majesty's Government. These, if carefully prepared, ought to contain as reliable information as could be acquired in any other way.

The opinion has long prevailed that the Constitution of Jamaica is ill adapted to the peculiar circumstances of the Colony, and that this has been one of the chief causes of its continual decline. Incessant disputes between the Assembly and the Council, and the Assembly and the Governor, have been most prejudicial to the general welfare. The stoppage of the supplies on various occasions by the Assembly, leading to a suspension of the import duties, to the pecuniary benefit of some of the members of that body, have wasted the revenue, and prevented the adoption of many useful measures.

The mail which has lately arrived has brought a proposal for the reform of the Constitution made by the Governor to the Legislature of Jamaica itself. This accords with the views of the great body of Jamaica proprietors and merchants unanimously expressed at a most influential meeting recently held here.

The Committee earnestly hope that Her Majesty's Government will give their serious consideration to the lamentable state of this once flourishing Colony, and that they may be successful in restoring confidence and prosperity among all classes of the community.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN CAVE, *Chairman.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Mr. Forster, M.P., to Mr. Cave, M.P.

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, written on behalf of the West India Committee.

I am directed to state in answer that Her Majesty's Government consider it indispensable that an inquiry should be made into the recent events and proceedings in Jamaica, but in making the necessary arrangements they will not overlook the prudential considerations suggested by the Committee.

I am also to assure you that the state of Jamaica generally, and the means of restoring confidence and prosperity to that island will engage their most anxious attention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. E. FORSTER.

No. 15.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.; to Governor Eyre.

(No. 366.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 283* of 8th November, inclosing copy of a Resolution of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, recording their deep regret at the loss of the valuable services of so upright and able a member of their Board as the late Baron Von Ketelhodt.

I am sensible of the loss which the community of Jamaica have sustained in the death of the Baron Von Ketelhodt, and share the deep regret which is expressed by the Legislative Council at that lamentable event.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 16.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 367.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, the copy of a letter from Mr. H. B. Edenborough, late Lieutenant in the Confederate States' Navy, communicating the substance of a conversation which he had with the late G. W. Gordon in June last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Mr. Edenborough to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Sir, *5, Sheffield Gardens, Kensington, W., December* 12, 1865.

THE evidence to which I referred in my letter to you of the 29th ultimo, connecting certain Haytian negroes with the rebel Gordon, and which you desire I should furnish you with, is, that in June last I was at Kingston, Jamaica, for a few days, having landed from a vessel the property of the Confederate States of America, which remained in the offing. Whilst in Kingston I was called upon by Gordon, who said he was connected with the Government of the island. He stated he understood it was my desire to dispose of the vessel and armament, the war being concluded, and said he wished to purchase the arms on board and the vessel (a beautiful clipper-schooner) if possible. The arms he wished to purchase consisted of breech-loading rifles, nine shooting pistols, hand-grenades, small torpedos, and whatever accoutrements, fixed ammunition, and gunpowder there might be on board. He wished them to be landed on the south side of the island, in the neighbourhood of Black River. He expressed himself as a strong sympathiser with the Confederate States in their struggle for independence.

On learning that I intended sending the crew of the schooner to England on board a vssel then lying in Annotto Bay, on the north side, he proposed to charter the vessel for a voyage to the Island of Great Inagua and back, there to receive on board a certain refugee Haytian General, and one or two others, and to touch at St. Nicholas Mole, Hayti, for another on the return voyage. A quantity of arms and powder, which he stated had arrived at Inagua from the United States, were also to be brought down to Jamacia and landed in the neighbourhood of Black River.

He was accompanied at the time by a bright mulatto, whom he introduced to me as a General, and whom I frequently saw afterwards in Kingston, where he resides. He referred me to a mercantile house of credit in Kingston, who would become responsible in case he should become the purchaser of the vessel and armament, or the voyage to Inagua should be made, both of which I declined.

I was then under the impression he was connected with the Dominicans agianst Spain, as in his conversation he and his Haytian friend inquired the possibility of converting ordinary small boats into torpedo rams against war-vessels blockading ports, &c. I imagined then he referred to the Spanish squadron blockading the coast of San Domingo,

* Page 162.

and that he was, in conjunction with certain Haytians, organizing an expedition in the cause of San Domingo at Black River. He spoke of a "new West India Republic."

When the late news from Jamaica arrived, connecting him with the insurrection, I deemed it my duty to make you acquainted with these facts before leaving England; and regretting that absence prevented my placing myself and crew at the disposal of Governor Eyre, I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY B. EDENBOROUGH,
Lieutenant, late Confederate States' Navy.

No. 17.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 373.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 276* of the 8th of November, in which you request the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for an advance of from 15,000*l.* to 20,000*l.* from the Commissariat Chest, if the necessity for it should arise, to meet the expenses occasioned by the recent rebellion.

I regret that your request cannot be complied with. I concur with the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, to whom I have referred it, in considering it undesirable to advance from the Commissariat chest, money which should properly be raised in the Colony on the credit of the Colonial Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 18.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 374.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

IN former despatches respecting the recent troubles in Jamaica, I have called your attention to many important matters on which Her Majesty's Government have desired to be furnished with the fullest information. I have now to state to you that, after taking the case, so far as they are at present acquainted with it, into their mature consideration, they have determined that, in order to the complete investigation of the subject, and in justice to yourself and to all parties, it is right to institute in the island a full and independent inquiry. The inquiry will embrace the origin, nature, and circumstances of the troubles, and the measures taken in the course of their repression. This determination has rendered it necessary to consider in what manner the Government of Jamaica ought to be administered during the inquiry.

That the peace of the colony may not be disturbed by the means taken for collecting information, and in order also that the investigation may be effective and satisfactory, it seems to Her Majesty's Government that the supreme authority in the colony, military as well as civil, must for the time be vested in the officer who is to preside over the Commission. This must evidently be an officer who has himself borne no part in the proceedings, and whose reputation will be a sufficient guarantee to yourself, and to all whose conduct or whose grievances may in any way come under review, for the perfect fairness and impartiality of the inquiry. As he must combine the military with the civil authority, he must be a soldier. It is very desirable also, upon other grounds, that the government should for a time be administered by a soldier, in order to secure unity of view and action in the military precautions which will be necessary to guard the colony against the possible risk of further outbreak.

For these reasons we have selected Lieutenant-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., at present Governor and Commander of Her Majesty's forces at Malta, and have requested him to proceed at once to Jamaica to carry these intentions into effect. His appointment will be only temporary, and he will not vacate the appointments which he holds at Malta. It will doubtless be necessary that for at least a portion, if not for the whole of the time occupied by the inquiry, you should be present in the island. I inclose you a copy of the Commission given to Sir H. Storks,† from which you will learn the mode in which we have endeavoured to overcome the difficulties inseparable from the institution of such an inquiry.

* Page 158. † Page 255.

In conclusion I will only repeat on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that while we feel it to be our imperative duty to institute this inquiry, we desire by every means in our power to guard against in any way prejudging its result. Our earnest hope is that the result will be to satisfy us on the points on which it is necessary for us to be satisfied, and at the same time to exhibit the conduct of those whose duty has compelled them to take part in these proceedings, and to whom the repression of the outbreak has been due, in a light which may show it to have been consistent with their position and character, and especially in your own case with that high character for courage and for humanity by which you have always been distinguished.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 19.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 1.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the Queen's Commission under the Great Seal appointing you to be Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Copy of a Commission passed under the Great Seal appointing Major-General Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., to be Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith: To Our Trusty and Well-beloved Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-chief of Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies, a Major-General in Our Army, having the local rank of Lieutenant-General while in command of Our Troops in Malta and its Dependencies: Greeting.

I. Whereas We did by Our Commission, under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster the twenty-ninth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, in the twenty-eighth year of Our Reign, Constitute and Appoint Our Trusty and Well-beloved Edward John Eyre, Esquire, to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over Our Island of Jamaica, and the Territories depending thereon, during Our Will and Pleasure, as by the said recited Commission, relation being thereunto had, may more fully and at large appear: And We did by Our said Commission make provision for the Government of Our said Island in the event of the death, incapacity, or absence of him, the said Edward John Eyre, but no provision was therein made for the Government of Our said Island by any other Person than the said Edward John Eyre during his presence therein: And whereas it is alleged that great disaffection hath prevailed in Our said Island, and that sundry evil-disposed Persons have concerted the destruction of other Our Subjects resident therein: And whereas grievous Disturbances have broken out in Our said Island, and have been suppressed, and the said Disturbances and Suppression have been attended with great loss of life, and it is alleged that excessive and unlawful severity has been used in such Suppression: And whereas it greatly concerns us that full and impartial Inquiry should be made into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the said Disturbances, and with respect to the measures adopted for the Suppression of the same: And whereas it may be advisable that the said Edward John Eyre should be present in Our said Island during the whole, or part, of the said Inquiry, but it is requisite for the sufficiency of the said Inquiry that the Powers vested in him as Governor of Our said Island should not be exercised by him while so present therein, but should, during the Prosecution of the said Inquiry, and for such further time as may seem to us requisite, be vested in such other Person as We may think fit: Now know you that We have Revoked and Determined, and by these Presents do Revoke and Determine from and after the time when Public

Notice hereof shall be given by Proclamation or otherwise in Our said Island, and thenceforth until We shall think fit to Determine these Presents, so much of the said recited Commission as did Constitute and Appoint the said Edward John Eyre to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-chief over Our said Island of Jamaica and its Dependencies: And further know you that We, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the prudence, courage, and loyalty of you the said Sir Henry Knight Storks, of Our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, have thought fit to Constitute and Appoint, and do by these Presents Constitute and Appoint you to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over Our said Island of Jamaica, and the Territories depending thereon, and also of all Forts and Garrisons erected and established, or which shall be erected and established within the same, for and during Our Pleasure. And We do hereby Authorize, Empower, and Command you, while these Presents shall remain in force, to Do and Execute all Things in due manner that shall belong to your said Command, and to the Trust We have reposed in you, according to the several Powers and Authorities granted or appointed to him the said Edward John Eyre by Our aforesaid Commission, and by Our Instructions under Our Sign-Manual and Signet therewith given him, and according to such further Powers, Directions, and Authorities as have been or shall at any time hereafter be granted or appointed him or you under Our Sign-Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and according to such reasonable Laws and Statutes as are now in force, or as shall be hereafter made and agreed upon by you, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Our said Island. And We declare Our Pleasure to be that except in respect to the Appointment of the said Edward John Eyre, the afore-mentioned Commission, and all Instructions heretofore issued to the said Edward John Eyre, under Our Sign-Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Council, or by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and all Appointments, Nominations, and Dispositions, made by or by virtue of such Commission or Instructions, shall remain in full force and effect.

II. And we do hereby Require and Command all Officers, Ministers, Civil and Military, and all other the Inhabitants of Our said Island, and the Territories depending thereon, to be obedient, aiding and assisting unto you or to the Officer administering the Government for the time being in the execution of this Our Commission, and of the Powers and Authorities herein contained.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent: Witness Ourself at Westminster, the fifteenth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, in the twenty-ninth year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under the Queen's Sign-Manual.

(L.S.) C. ROMILLY.

No. 20.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 2.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

YOU have received your temporary Commission as Governor of Jamaica.

It is the intention of Her Majesty's Government that you should proceed forthwith to that island, holding for a time not only the office of Governor, but also the supreme military command, and the office of President of a Royal Commission, which will shortly be appointed to inquire into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the recent disturbances, and into the measures taken in the course of their repression.

I inclose, for your information, copies of despatches which have been addressed to Governor Eyre since the commencement of these troubles, in order that you may be aware what information Her Majesty's Government have desired to receive from the Governor of Jamaica. Governor Eyre will now be relieved from any further obligation of replying to those despatches, and the task of investigating the subject will devolve upon you, and upon the Commission over which you will preside.

It has been represented to Her Majesty's Government that any public inquiry into the state of the island, unless conducted with extreme caution, would have a tendency to unsettle the minds of the negroes. Her Majesty's Government have not been unmindful of this consideration; but by placing the supreme power of the Colony, military as well as civil, in your hands, and making you at the same time President of the Commission, Her Majesty's Government feel that they have taken the best security against any such danger, without compromising the prospect of a full and impartial investigation.

The Royal Commission and Instructions will be issued with the least possible delay. It will be sufficient to say now that Her Majesty's Government desire that the inquiry shall be full, searching, and impartial. You will, I conceive, require statutory powers to enable you to collect the necessary information, and these powers I do not doubt the Legislature of Jamaica will readily confer upon you.

By entrusting to you these important duties, Her Majesty's Government evince their confidence in your ability to deal with a subject so painful and difficult. Their first anxiety has been that security should be restored to all, of whatever race or colour, who desire to live in peace and orderly submission to the law, and that any further sacrifice of life by the renewal of these disturbances should be effectually prevented. Those objects attained, they desire to investigate calmly, thoroughly, and impartially, the origin, nature, and circumstances of these lamentable events, and with full information before them to arrive at a deliberate and a just decision upon the whole case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 21.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 3.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 16, 1865.

IN my despatch conveying to you your Commission as Governor of Jamaica, I made no reference to the pecuniary arrangements which the peculiar circumstances of your appointment will render necessary.

The salary of the Governor of Jamaica is 5,000*l.* per annum, consisting of 1,500*l.* which is secured as part of the civil list by the schedule to the Local Act, 17 Vict., cap. 29, "An Act for the better government of this island, and for raising a revenue in support thereof;" and 3,500*l.*, which is annually applied to the Governor's salary out of what is called the perpetual annuity charged on the Jamaica revenue by the Imperial Act 25 & 26 Vict., cap. 55, "An Act for the settlement of a loan due from the Island of Jamaica to the Imperial Government," and the Local Act 26 Vict., cap. 1, which was passed with the same object.

This annuity, by the 2nd section of the above mentioned Act, is applicable "to such expenses of the Government of the said island and objects connected therewith, and of the local improvements therein, as the Governor of the said island may from time to time direct, in pursuance of such instructions as may from time to time be issued by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State."

You will, of course, receive 2,225*l.* half salary as absent Governor of Malta. You will also receive as Governor of Jamaica the 1,500*l.* reserved to the Governor by the Civil List. And I instruct you to appropriate a further sum of 1,275*l.* from the Perpetual Annuity to make up your emoluments to the sum of 5,000*l.* a-year salary, and table allowance, as Governor of Malta.

From the still unappropriated part of the Perpetual Annuity, namely, 5,125*l.*, you will direct that Mr. Eyre shall continue to receive the salary which would be payable 5 him had he continued in the exercise of his functions, which will be at the rate of ,000*l.* a-year while he continues in the island, and 2,500*l.* if he shall quit it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 22.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 8.)

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 22, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 302* of the 23rd of November, forwarding various documents illustrative of the state of Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 179.

No. 23.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 10.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 319* of the 8th of December, transmitting copies of documents showing the kind of spirit still existing in several of the parishes of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 24.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 11.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE had under my consideration Governor Eyre's despatch No. 273† of the 8th of November, reporting that he had directed the deportation from Jamaica of certain Haytian refugees, in consequence of their being engaged in plots against the present Government of Hayti, and having fitted out a schooner for the purpose of conveying aid to the insurgents in that country.

So far as I am aware, there is no law in force in Jamaica authorizing the deportation of aliens, and, if so, the banishment of the Haytian refugees is an act the justification of which must depend upon its necessity, and cannot be supported upon any grounds of international obligation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 25.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 12.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 313‡ of the 7th of December, inclosing an authenticated copy of an Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica, "to alter and amend the political constitution of this Island."

Her Majesty's Government will not fail to give to this important measure their most full and careful consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 26.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 13.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE received Governor Eyre's despatches Nos. 321 and 329§ of the 8th of December.

The appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the circumstances of the recent outbreak of the negroes in Jamaica renders it unnecessary for me to do more than acknowledge the receipt of these despatches.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 216. † Page 138. ‡ Page 196. § Pages 218 and 232.

No. 27.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 14.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE received Governor Eyre's despatch No. 322* of the 8th of December, inclosing copies of communications from the Administrator of the Government of Barbadoes, and from the General in command on that station, pressing for the early return to Barbadoes of the troops sent to Jamaica to aid in the suppression of the disturbances. I have also to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's previous despatches, Nos. 289 and 290† of the 15th of November, reporting that he had been able to dispense with the services of the troops brought from Nova Scotia, but giving his opinion that 500 or 600 troops, in addition to the ordinary garrison, should be stationed in Jamaica for some time to come.

You received before leaving England instructions from the Secretary of State for War, upon your arrival in Jamaica, to give the measures to be taken for the military protection of the island your full consideration, making the best arrangements in your power for restoring, when, practicable, to Barbadoes and the Bahamas, the troops withdrawn from those islands; and with authority for sending to Halifax for the 2nd battalion 17th Foot, should you deem it to be absolutely necessary to have an additional force in Jamaica.

The Admiral on the station has received instructions to maintain an adequate naval force at Jamaica, and also to insure prompt communication with the several islands, so that immediate aid may be afforded, if necessary, at any point.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure in No. 27.

The Under-Secretary of State for War to Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks.

Sir, *War Office, December* 16, 1865.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acquaint you that he has had under his consideration a letter from Major-General O'Connor dated 11th November, addressed to the Military Secretary, in which he submits an arrangement for the redistribution of the troops serving in the West Indies with a view to giving to Jamaica the additional force which Governor Eyre deems it necessary to maintain there.

Lord de Grey is not prepared to adopt this proposal, and considers it advisable that no alteration should be made in the scheme of reliefs of the West India Regiments and West Coast of Africa respectively, as explained in the letter from the Horse Guards, of which a copy is inclosed.

Upon your arrival in Jamaica you will, with the aid of the information contained in this letter, give the subject your full consideration, making the best arrangements in your power for restoring, when practicable, to the Bahamas and to Barbadoes the troops which have been withdrawn from those islands.

I am further to acquaint you that you have his Lordship's authority for sending to Halifax for the 2nd battalion 17th Foot, should you deem it to be absolutely necessary to have additional force in Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. LUGARD.

No. 28.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from Governor Eyre, dated 9th December,‡ in which he expresses his desire to obtain a year's leave of absence, to commence from about the 20th of April.

I greatly regret to learn that Mr. Eyre's health has suffered so much from his long

* Page 219. † Pages 168 and 171. ‡ Page 235.

residence in the West Indies, and from the labour and anxiety which have devolved upon him during his administration of the Government of Jamaica.

I observe that he does not propose to leave immediately, and under the arrangements which you are authorized to make by my despatch of the 16th December, it will not be necessary to wait for a further reference to me. You will have the goodness to arrange with Mr. Eyre at what time it will be most desirable for him to leave Jamaica, and he may consider himself at liberty to leave accordingly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 29.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 15.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 314* of the 7th of December, inclosing a copy of a Resolution of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, expressing the thanks of the House for the services rendered by the officers and men of Her Majesty's Army and Navy, by the Volunteer Militia, and by the Maroons, in the suppression of the rebellion of the negroes in the eastern districts of the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 30.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 16.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 327† of the 8th of December, inclosing Minutes by the Members of the Executive Committee and by Messrs. Williams and R. W. Smith on the subject of the new Constitution Act, and forwarding a protest against the Act from Mr. Moncrieff, a member of the Legislative Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 31.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 17.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 320‡ of the 8th ultimo, forwarding copy of an Address presented to him by the inhabitants of the parish of St. James and the vicinity, together with a copy of his reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 214. † Page 225. ‡ Page 217.

No. 32.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(No. 18.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 317* of the 8th of December, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to a firm in Kingston, indicative of a feeling of apprehension amongst the inhabitants of the western parishes of Jamaica in August last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 33.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. Storks.

(Separate.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet appointing you, together with Mr. Russell Gurney and Mr. J. B. Maule, to be Her Majesty's Commissioners for inquiring respecting the recent disturbances in the Island of Jamaica and the measures taken for their suppression.

I also inclose a Commission appointing Mr. C. S. Roundell to be Secretary to the Commission of Inquiry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Copy of a Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet appointing Major-General Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,—Russell Gurney, Esquire, Queen's Counsel, Recorder of the City of London,—and John Blossett Maule, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Recorder of the Town of Leeds,—to enquire respecting certain Disturbances in the Island of Jamaica, and the Measures taken in the course of their Suppression.

(L.S.)

Victoria R.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith: To Our Trusty and Well-beloved Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon, a Major-General in Our Army, having the Local Rank of Lieutenant-General while in Command of Our Troops in Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon; Our Trusty and Well-beloved Russell Gurney, Esquire, One of Our Counsel Learned in the Law, Recorder of Our City of London; and Our Trusty and Well-beloved John Blossett Maule, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Recorder of Our Town of Leeds; Greeting:

Whereas it is alleged that great Disaffection hath prevailed in Our said Island, and that sundry evil-disposed Persons have concerted the destruction of other Our Subjects resident therein: And whereas grievous Disturbances have broken out in Our said Island, and have been Suppressed, and the said Disturbances and Suppression have been attended with great loss of life, and it is alleged that excessive and unlawful severity has been used in the course of such Suppression: And whereas it greatly concerns Us that full and impartial Inquiry should be made into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the said Disturbances, and with respect to the Measures adopted in the course of their Suppression: And whereas it is requisite for the sufficiency of the said Inquiry that it should be conducted by Persons not having borne part in the Government of Our said Island during the existence of the said Disturbances nor in the Suppression thereof. Now know ye that We, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in the Loyalty and Fidelity of you, the said Sir Henry Knight Storks, Russell Gurney, and John Blossett Maule, have constituted

* Page 215.

and appointed you to be Our Commissioners for the purpose of making such Inquiry as aforesaid; and We do authorize and Require you, with all convenient dispatch, and by all lawful ways and means, to enter upon such Inquiry, and, jointly or severally, to collect evidence in Our said Island respecting the origin, nature, and circumstances of the said Disturbances, and respecting the Means adopted in the course of the Suppression of the same, and respecting the conduct of those concerned in such Disturbances or Suppression, and We do Require you to communicate to Us through one of Principal Secretaries of State, as well as the said Evidence as any opinions which you may think fit to express thereupon. And We do further require that you do in all things conform to such Instructions as shall be addressed to you by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State: And We do strictly Charge and Command all Our Officers, Civil and Military, and all Our Faithful Subjects, and all others inhabiting the said Island and the Territories depending thereon, that in their several places and according to their respective Powers and Opportunities they be aiding to you in the execution of this Our Commission. And for so doing, this shall be your Warrant.

Given at Our Court, at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, this thirtieth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, in the twenty-ninth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.

(Countersigned) Edward Cardwell.

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

Copy of a Commission under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, appointing Charles Saville Roundell, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, to be Secretary to the Commissioners for prosecuting an inquiry into the origin, nature, and circumstances of certain Disturbances which had occurred in the Island of Jamaica, and with respect to the Measures adopted in the course of their Suppression.

(L.S.)

Victoria R.

TO Our Trusty and Well-beloved Charles Saville Roundell, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Greeting:

Whereas by a Commission under Our Royal Sign Manual and Signet, bearing date at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, this thirtieth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, in the twenty-ninth year of Our reign, We have constituted and appointed Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over Our Island of Jamaica and the territories depending thereon, a Major-General in Our Army, having the local rank of Lieutenant-General while in command of Our troops in Jamaica and the territories depending thereon; Our Trusty and Well-beloved Russell Gurney, Esquire, one of Our Counsel learned in the Law, Recorder of Our City of London; and Our Trusty and Well-beloved John Blossett Maule, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Recorder of Our Town of Leeds, to be Our Commissioners for prosecuting an Inquiry into the origin, nature, and circumstances of certain Disturbances which had occurred in the Island of Jamaica, and with respect to the measures adopted in the course of their suppression:

Now know you that We, reposing especial trust and confidence in the loyalty and fidelity of you the said Charles Saville Roundell, have constituted and appointed you to be the Secretary to the said Sir Henry Knight Storks, Russell Gurney, and John Blossett Maule, in such their capacity of Commissioners as aforesaid.

Given at Our Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight, this thirtieth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, in the twenty-ninth year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command.

(Countersigned) Edward Cardwell.

FURTHER PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

DISTURBANCES IN JAMAICA.

PART II.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.
1866.

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DESPATCHES FROM GOVERNOR EYRE.

Further Papers relative to the Disturbances in Jamaica.

Part II.

No. 1.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 331.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 16, 1865.

IN my despatch No. 313* of the 7th instant, transmitting "An Act to alter and amend the Constitution of this Island," I mentioned that it was a singular fact that no petition to either branch of the Legislature had been presented against the abolition of the House of Assembly.

2. I now find I was in error in making this statement, as a petition was presented to the Legislative Council on the very day on which my despatch was written, but of which I was not at the time aware.

This petition is signed by twenty-nine individuals, none of whom are of any position or influence; and even it was only presented after the Bill had passed a second reading in the Council, and was before that Body in Committee.

A copy is inclosed. I also inclose a copy of an expression of dissent entered upon the Minutes of the Legislative Council by one of its members, the Honourable L. McKinnon.

These two documents can scarcely be considered as invalidating my former general statement; and it must be remembered, too, that the question of the abolition of the House of Assembly had been before the public for a full month, and that there was ample time and opportunity to have presented any number of petitions against the measure had the public been so disposed: but the truth is that the public, as a body, has long and ardently desired the abolition of the House of Assembly. It has only been a few interested members of the House itself that have heretofore stood in the way of accomplishing this great public good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Petition.

To the Honourable John Salmon, President, and the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council.

The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the parish of St. Catherine,

Showeth—

THAT the Bill for remodelling the constitution seeks the destruction of the constitutional liberties of the people of this island, which they have enjoyed for upwards of 200 years, and as such it is calculated to uproot the institutions of the country.

* Vide page 196 in Part I.

That the measure by which it is sought to replace the existing constitution is not only unsuited to the circumstances of the country, but it is marked by political retrogression, and will in the end be productive of greater evil than any which it might be designed to cure.

That a single Legislative Chamber in this Colony will not tend to conserve the happiness, unity, and liberty of the people, and will be a fruitful source of anarchy, discontent and oppression.

That the measure is against the spirit of the age, against the spirit of English legislation, and against everything that is politic and just.

That under the provision of this Bill almost the entire black, and nineteen-twentieths of the white and coloured population will be disfranchised, without committing any offence against society, or the laws of the land; a measure against which your Petitioners, as loyal subjects, solemnly protest, being utterly inconsistent with the genius of the British constitution, which is based upon taxation and representation.

That under the operation of this Bill, the members of your honourable Board will cease to be nominated for life, their appointments will only endure at the utmost for seven years; and should the nominative element at any time disagree with the Governor for the time being, they will, contemporaneously with the elected Members, be dissolved, and new nominations made—a power the exercise of which may tend to the destruction of all independence by that branch of the Legislative Council, and the birth of an entire subserviency to the will of the Governor for the time being, who by thus acquiring a majority may have the entire will of the Colony for good or for evil, as he may be disposed.

That your Petitioners are willing to submit to the remodelling of the present popular branch of the Legislature by a moderate increase of the franchise, so as to purge the list of voters of all its grosser elements, and even to reduce the number of Members composing that body; but your Petitioners can see nothing but evil in depriving almost the bulk of the electors of the right of being represented in framing laws by which they are to be governed.

That it is the earnest wish and prayer of your Petitioners that the existing right and privilege of the Legislative Council should be preserved intact, as a bulwark at all times against the growth of democracy in the lower branch of the Legislature.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your honourable Council will in no way and under no form entertain legislation in a single Chamber.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

(Signed) RICHARD COWAN.
(And 28 others.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Jamaica, ss.

In the Legislative Council, Thursday, December 14, 1865.

Dissent against the Passing of the "Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

I DISSENT from the Act styled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island"—

1. Because that in the 7th clause a Commissioner may be appointed by the Crown, being "of administrative and financial experience and ability" for the assistance of the Governor in lieu of the Executive Committee at 3,000*l* a-year, such a sum being beyond the means of the island, and such an officer being wholly unnecessary, the Executive Committee from the time of its institution having discharged the duties sought to be imposed upon this officer efficiently, and at salaries suitable to our means. And there is no sufficient reason shown for thus adding a large additional expense to the outlay of a country already struggling with difficulty.

2. Because by the 13th clause the nominated as well as the elected members of the Legislative Chamber lose their seats every seven years, and at every dissolution of the Chamber, as opposed to sound policy in refusing to gentlemen largely interested in the Colony a free voice in the regulation of their own affairs, rendering any support they may give to the Government valueless in the eyes of their fellow-colonists as being no longer independent, and placing the Colony absolutely at the feet of every future Governor, both in regard to taxation and to everything else, a position impolitic to place the Representative of the Crown in, even for his own sake, humiliating to the nominated members, and dangerous to the future welfare of the country.

3. Because by the reading of the 3rd, the 8th, and the 33rd clauses it would appear that no more than one nominated member can be a holder of any office of emolument, which precludes all others from filling any office of any honorary distinction in the Chamber; in the event of either the Commissioner or any official member being appointed by the Government, the nominated members are thus placed in a position of inferiority to the elected members derogatory to themselves, and to the honour of the Crown.

4. Because this Act was passed by the Legislature without amendment on the part of the Legislative Council under peculiar circumstances, and for reasons connected with the peace and safety of the island; it would, therefore, be unjust to regard it as emanating from the free voice of both bodies, or that it should be considered as a final measure.

(Signed) LOUIS MACKINNON.

No. 2.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 332.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

AT the request of certain Ministers of Religion, whose names are thereunto attached, I have the honour to transmit a Memorial addressed to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, praying for a Special Commissioner to be appointed from England to investigate into matters connected with the late rebellion.

This Memorial is signed by five Baptist Ministers out of about thirty-five labouring in the island, by four Presbyterian Ministers out of about twenty-two labouring in the island, and by two Wesleyan Ministers out of about twenty-six labouring in the island.

2. I have only to remark with regard to the Baptist Ministers, that most of them are the gentlemen who took such a prominent part in the Underhill meetings in support of all Dr. Underhill's allegations, and who subsequently treated the Queen's advice to the people of Jamaica in so disloyal and unbecoming a manner, as reported in my despatches No. 210 of the 22nd August, and No. 237 of the 20th September.*

3. These are the kind of men who, by mistaken views and misdirected efforts, tend to stir up sedition and rebellion in the minds of an ignorant and debased population.

4. The petition adduces no facts whatever, but bases its request entirely upon "rumoured" statements.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Memorial.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, whose names are hereunto appended, Evangelical missionaries of the Wesleyan Methodist and Baptist Missionary Societies in England and of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland respectively, and labouring in the parish of St. James, in your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, beg leave to approach your Majesty with an unfeigned expression of our attachment to your Majesty's person and throne, and of our gratitude for the blessings which we enjoy under your Majesty's benignant reign.

We deeply lament the lawless and ferocious outbreak which, as your Majesty must have been grieved to learn, took place in one of the eastern districts of this island in the month of October last, and we readily acquiesce in the righteous condemnation and punishment of all who were wickedly concerned in it. Your Majesty, however, will, we trust, permit us also to remark that we have been exceedingly pained by the rumoured cruel and barbarous proceedings of some at least of those who were engaged in the suppression of the riot, and especially by the reckless and terrible destruction of life and property which, as is asserted, has been perpetrated on the sad occasion. We know not how far these reports are worthy of credence, but in order that the truth may be discovered, and that, for the satisfaction of the public mind and the safety of the public interests, the causes and consequences of the outbreak may be duly and accurately ascertained, we now venture to implore that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to direct a full and impartial

* Vide Papers presented on the Affairs of Jamaica, February 1866, pages 256 and 261.

investigation, by a special Commission from England, to be made into the whole matter, and also into the reasons for the astounding allegation that seditious and murderous designs are entertained by the black population in general, and that "a mighty danger thus threatens the land."

We most respectfully prefer this request to your Majesty, because we have no hope of the desired information being otherwise procured, and because we feel that we should be wanting in duty to your Majesty, to ourselves, and to our fellow-countrymen, as well as to the religious bodies in England and Scotland which we represent, and other philanthropic friends of the emancipated negroes in this and other portions of your Majesty's dominions, were we not, humbly but earnestly, to supplicate for an authoritative inquiry into an event which is unprecedented in the history of this Colony, which very seriously affects the island at large, and from which, we are persuaded, if your Majesty shall grant our petition, most important and salutary lessons may be learned by all classes of the inhabitants.

Fervently praying that He by whom kings reign and princes decree justice may long preserve your Majesty in health and happiness, to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British Empire, over which your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which of late years it has been so highly favoured, we remain, &c.

(Signed) WALTER DENDY, *Baptist Missionary.*
(And 10 others.)

Jamaica, December 8, 1865.

No. 3.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 333.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

IN my despatch No. 260* of the 30th October, I transmitted a correspondence with General O'Connor, in which he quoted some remarks from a private note of mine to him without giving the whole of the passage relating to the subject.

At the time I was unable to supply accurately the omission, not having retained any copy of my note.

I have since procured from General O'Connor, and now transmit to you, a copy of the original note in its entirety.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 12, 1865.

IN one of your official communications to me, dated the 30th October, your Excellency quoted some passages from a private note of mine, relative to the publication of the military reports in the newspapers.

As the extracts quoted only give a portion of my communication, I should be obliged by your Excellency furnishing me with a copy of the entire private note referred to, as I myself kept no copy of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 13, 1865.

IN compliance with your request of the 12th instant I have the honour to forward the inclosed copy of your letter of the 14th October, 1865.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

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* Vide page 62 in Part I.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

My dear General, *"Wolverine," off Morant Bay, October* 14, 1865, 9·30 A.M.

BRIGADIER NELSON is writing to you particulars, so I will only add a line or two; we are sorely pressed for time, and you will understand that I must write to my wife.

Thank God all is well. Your promptness in meeting all our requirements will, I hope, tell in the long run.

Nelson is a cool head and quiet practice man, but earnest and zealous, and an excellent officer to be in command and to act with; whilst he is, as you know, also an admirable good fellow in every respect.

We are working hard and endeavouring to hem in the insurgents so as to confine them within a line to the eastward between Kingston and Annotto Bay, and when we get our stations formed we hope to give them a good squeeze. We made a lucky capture of a ringleader at Port Morant about 3 A.M. this morning, and tried and hung him up at once.

We are now trying the prisoners from the "Wolverine," and others since taken and with a very similar prospect before them. As soon as this is over we take some more troops on board and proceed at once to Port Antonio, where the bulk of the insurgents are.

I hope all is quiet in the other parts of the island, and if so we shall, I hope, be able to get the rebellion under; but within a given area it is general, and the massacres and destruction of property have been horrible.

A line to Morant Bay and another to Port Antonio would reach us in due course.

The Brigadier has written to you officially, and read his letter to me. The public are so interested in hearing what is going on that, if you saw no objection to the communication being made public, or such portion of it as you think right, the act would be highly appreciated. It can do no harm in a country like this, and may do good.

The cabin is so dark, and the rain makes it so much more so, that I cannot see what I am writing.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P. S.—The Executive Committee would like to see the despatch if you please.
E. E.

No. 4.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 334.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

IN connection with my despatch No. 329* of the 8th instant, I have the honour to state that upon referring to my office records I found that I had not a copy of a single one of the reports from the military authorities which were forwarded with my despatch No 251† of the 20th October last.

2. Those reports for the most part only reached me just in time to be attached to that despatch, and consequently copies could not be taken for my own use. Since the receipt of your despatch No. 341‡ of the 17th November, I have applied to and obtained from General O'Connor fresh copies of all these documents, except three which are not in his possession.

3. As soon as the present packet has left I will read over the various communications, and send such extracts to General O'Connor for explanations from the writers as may seem to require further elucidation or justification.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E EYRE.

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* *Vide* page 232 in Part I. † *Vide* page 1 in Part I. ‡ *Vide* page 239 in Part I.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 13, 1865.

IN reporting to Her Majesty's Government the occurrence of the late rebellion, I accompanied such report with copies of various letters received from the military and naval officers and others concerned in putting down and punishing the outbreak.

Those letters were necessarily hurriedly written—brief and wanting in detail as to some of the circumstances which are mentioned as little more than bare facts.

Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that when time permits the writers will be able to explain fully those proceedings to which the passages adverted to relate, and I am instructed to obtain the necessary particulars for their information.

In accordance with these directions I propose as the most convenient way to send to you in separate despatches extracts from each letter received through you or Brigadier-General Nelson, containing any passages relative to which further information is required, so that they can at once be referred back to the writer for such explanation as may enable Her Majesty's Government to justify the course taken.

As the copies of most of these letters only reached me in time to append to my despatch, I was unable to retain copies for myself. I must therefore request your Excellency will be good enough to cause new copies to be made for me at as early a date as possible, to be paid for at the cost of the Colonial Government.

I inclose a schedule of the letters of which I require additional copies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Schedule of Letters or Reports of which copies are required.

Captain Ross to General O'Connor, October 13, 1865.
Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 14, 1865.
Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 15, 1865.
Colonel Hobbs to General O'Connor, October 15, 1865.
Mr. G. D. Ramsay to Captain Luke, October 16, 1865.
Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 16, 1865.
Captain Luke to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 16, 1865.
Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 17, 1865.
Captain Luke to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 17, 1865.
Mr. A. Warrington to Captain Hole, October 18, 1865.
Lieutenant Oxley to Colonel Hobbs, October 19, 1865.
Report of Colonel Hobbs as to Stony Gut, October 19, 1865.
Lieutenant Oxley to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 19, 1865.
Colonel Hobbs to General O'Connor, October 19, 1865.

There was also a Report from Colonel Hobbs to General O'Connor of which I forget the date. It was sent under cover to me in General O'Connor's private letter of the 16th October, with a request that I would hand it over to Brigadier-General Nelson, which I did.

King's House, December 13, 1865.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head Quarters, December* 16, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's communication dated the 13th instant, inclosing a Schedule of letters, &c., of which you required copies, I have the honour to forward the copies as per margin.*

Those not forwarded and called for in the Schedule are not in my possession.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 5.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

(No. 335.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

HAVING noticed in some of the English papers that the late serious outbreak in this Colony has been designated as a local riot stimulated by the circumstances of the moment, and that no outrages took place until after the people had been fired upon by the volunteers, I have the honour to inclose a statement which I have received from the Honourable H. Westmorland, showing that the belief that a rebellion was about to break out was entertained and made known to him a fortnight before it took place, though he then discredited and ridiculed such a supposed contingency.

There can be no question but that for months prior to the rising in St. Thomas in the East, there were uneasy feelings and vague apprehensions entertained by persons having opportunities of seeing or hearing much of the labouring classes as to the intentions of the negro population, not particularly in the Eastern districts, but throughout the island generally.

With regard to the predetermined intentions of the rebels at Morant Bay, it is sufficient to state that prior to their making their appearance before the Court-house or coming into collision with any one, they had sacked the police station and carried off all the arms and ammunition. Many indications have also come under my notice, evidencing that persons at a distance from the scene had a general knowledge beforehand of what was about to take place.

Nor was the rising confined to the inhabitants of Morant Bay. It spread from district to district with great rapidity until stopped by meeting the military who were landed at Port Antonio in advance of the rebellion and marched back to Long Bay, where they met the movement and prevented its further progress. It was not the Morant Bay le who went from district to district, but the negroes of each district, who rose as the wave of rebellion advanced towards them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Statement of the Hon. H. Westmorland.

ABOUT a fortnight before the breaking out of the rebellion I was purchasing some wine at the store of D. Finzi and Co., Kingston, and whilst in conversation with the head clerk, Mr. Morais, he informed me that in his belief we were on the eve of a rebellion. I ridiculed the idea, and did not, being pressed for time, ask Mr. Morais for his reasons for coming to this conclusion. Shortly after leaving the store I met Mr. Nairne, Inspector of Police, to whom I mentioned the circumstance, and he took the same view

* Brigadier-General Nelson to Major-General O'Connor, October 14, 1865; Ditto, October 15, 1865; Colonel Hobbs to Major-General O'Connor, October 17, 1865; Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 16, 1865; Captain Luke to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 16, 1865; Brigadier-General Nelson to General O'Connor, October 17, 1865; Captain Hole to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 17, 1865; Lieutenant Oxley to Colonel Hobbs, October 19, 1865; Report of Colonel Hobbs on Stony Gut, October 19, 1865; Lieutenant Oxley to Brigadier-General Nelson, October 19, 1865; Colonel Hobbs to Major-General O'Connor, October 19, 1865.

No copies.—Captain Ross to Major-General O'Connor, October 13, 1865; Mr. Ramsay to Captain Luke, October 16, 1865; Mr. Warrington to Captain Hole, October 18, 1865.

as myself. Shortly after the rebellion broke out I called upon Mr. Morais, and asked him what led him to say what he had done to me; and he replied that for some time he had heard the black people passing and loitering about the store use expressions to the effect that they would soon have brandy and rum for nothing, and that, from similar expressions, he had come to the conclusion that some plan of plundering the stores was in contemplation. I inclose his written statement, and have only to add that previously to the time in question I was quite unacquainted with Mr. Morais.

(Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

December 20, 1865.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Statement of Mr. Morais.

TWO weeks prior to the negro rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East, the Honourable Henry Westmorland called at the store of Messrs. D. Finzi and Co., where I am a clerk. In conversation with that gentleman I said I thought, from the impudence of the negroes in Kingston, we were on the verge of a rebellion; caused from my having heard them say that any one black was a match for ten whites, and that shortly they would get brandy, wines, &c., for nothing, which Messrs. D. Finzi and Co. sell. It is a well-known fact there are over twenty to thirty idle fellows who squat themselves on the piazza of the aforenamed store.

I also told him of an affair which took place a few days prior to my speaking to him, when the sailors of Her Majesty's ship "Rosario" were maltreated by the black policemen, and that several of the draymen aided in beating them severely with sticks. Being a white man, I interfered, and was told they would use any white man in a similar manner. It is proverbial—the insolence of the negroes generally in Kingston for the last six or eight months is known to everybody here.

December 18, 1865.

(Signed) JOSHUA M. MORAIS.

No. 6.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 336.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter from Dr. Underhill to a Mr. ———, which was forwarded to me by (I think) the Custos of Kingston.

Having referred this communication to the Custos of the parish where Mr. ——— resides, I send a copy of Mr. Salmon's reply, stating who Mr. ——— is, and his antecedents.

The correspondence shows the nature of some of the sources from which Dr. Underhill derives the information upon which he bases his political statements with regard to Jamaica, and the "injustice and fraud" which he asserts the coloured classes have been so long struggling against.

I also append a printed extract published in the local newspapers, purporting to be from a recent letter of Dr. Underhill's in reference to the late rebellion.

Without any accurate information before him, Dr. Underhill does not hesitate, with his usual good taste and accuracy, to designate as a "massacre in the name of justice" the just retribution exacted for a rebellion ushered in by the most unprovoked, barbarous, and wholesale butcheries, and which, during its continuance, has entailed upon an unoffending community frightful losses and an immense expenditure.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—An article in one of to-day's newspapers (which I transmit) reminds me that I have not noticed Dr. Underhill's assertion that his letter to the Secretary of State "was not addressed to the people of Jamaica," and that "it was the Governor's act to give it publicity."

Surely Dr. Underhill could not suppose that the Secretary of State would have

such grave statements as his letter contained officially placed before him by the representative of a highly respectable and influential association in England, and not take any steps to inquire into the grounds of the allegations made.

To obtain this information he could only refer to the Governor of the Colony, and the latter, in his turn, could only refer Dr. Underhill's statements to the Custodes and other influential lay persons, and to all the ministers of religion of all denominations, and this is exactly the course that was taken.

The Governor did not direct or authorize the publication of Dr. Underhill's letter, nor does he know by or through whom the publication first took place; but it was only a natural, almost necessary, consequence of that letter having been referred to so many different persons, over whom the Executive had no control, but without a reference to whom the required information could not have been fully obtained.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Dr. Underhill to Mr. ———.

Sir, 2, *John Street, Bedford Row, London, July* 12, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge, with thanks, your letter of 7th June, for the information and facts it contains illustrative of the condition of the people of Jamaica.

2. It did not occur to me that my letter to Mr. Cardwell was likely to produce so much excitement in the island.

3. However, as it has done so, I sincerely hope that some beneficial result may come out of it. Speaking generally of the legislation of the island, it appears to me that the interests of the coloured population have been greatly neglected. Other interests have been well represented in the Assembly, and have received a very disproportionate share of attention and profit therefrom. It is more than time that measures, some like those you suggest, should be adopted, having for their direct purpose the elevation and advantage of the peasantry and coloured people. Thus, I may notice, that of the forty Acts passed and allowed by the Colonial Office in the Session of 1861, not more than one was in the slightest degree beneficial to the coloured population. That one Act related to industrial schools. All the rest were for the creation of new offices, the increased salary of others, and for immigration purposes. Immigration Acts can in no important respect be said to be beneficial to the labouring classes of the island, and are very doubtfully so to the planting interests. This is an illustration of the one-sided legislation of the Assembly, and it is no wonder if the labouring classes have many burdens to bear and wrongs unredressed while they possess no effectual voice in the making of the laws which touch their interests in so many points.

4. The great aim, however, of the coloured people should be to raise produce for exportation; they confine themselves too much to provision-growing. The wealth of the island can be increased only by foreign commerce, and this depends on the amount of exportable produce sent to other countries. With wealth would come power, and the Legislature could not neglect or treat badly the interests of those who possess property, and the influence which come from its possession. Let the people, therefore, with industry and assiduity apply themselves to the production of articles that find a good market in Europe. Let them combine their little produce so as to render it worth while for shippers to take their freight at low charges. Let them open communications with trustworthy persons in this country, by whom their produce can be brought into market and fairly sold. By these and the like measures the people may do much to free themselves from their difficulties, and at the same time advance the well-being of all classes in the island.

5. I hope that this agitation will result in good; and that inquiry will show the Government and Assembly the best course to take for the welfare of all.

Thanking you again for your communication, believe me, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD B. UNDERHILL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Governor's Minute.

FORWARD this to the Custos where ——— lives (Mr. Salmon, I believe), and request he will report who ——— is; his occupation, position in life, character, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

November 23, 1865.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Mr. Salmon to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Spanish Town, December* 14, 1865.

REFERRING to your communication of the 24th of November last—

2. I have not been able to get any correct account of his early history. He was, I understand born at ———, and became a clerk in the office of Mr. ——— to copy papers.

3. During his residence in Hanover parish he was either sent to the Penitentiary or District Prison for obstructing the police in the execution of their duty. Some years since he came to the parish of St. Elizabeth; and for taking on himself the character of attorneya t-law, and giving advice to persons consulting him as a solicitor for money payment, he was prosecuted by the Clerk to the Magistrates, Brain, for receiving money under false pretences, was proved guilty, and sent to the Mandeville District Prison, in the parish of Manchester. Returning to St. Elizabeth. and finding no employment and no means of living, he became a politician, as he was called—an agitator of the rights of the people—explaining the wrongs the negro laboured under and suffered from; giving his views on the mode to be pursued to get rid of grievances when addressing these people publicly; and collecting, by a hat sent round, pence, or more, to 6*d.* or 1*s.*, according as the subject was more or less satisfactorily set out; and reserving the evening meetings at private houses, where large numbers met, for more fully explaining the measures which would be necessary for the obtaining equal rights with the white man, fair dealing, &c. For the interest thus shown, and his labour in corresponding with the well-wishers of the negro, he received whatever sum could be collected, with board and lodging, and consideration as a friend.

4. This I learn from persons attending these meetings, but who will not say a word unless under a promise that their names be never mentioned, as they say, "If they hear me say so, me no going to live long."

5. I have been told of this man's attendance here to-night, there to-morrow night, and have warned him, and stated where he had been; but proof is too difficult. You will be told, "Him talk very strong, massa." "Well, what did he really say—what word did he use?" "Massa, me can't remember." ——— was the mover in calling the meetings in St. Elizabeth to consider Dr. Underhill's letter to Mr. Cardwell. He has a fluency of speech such as suits his class, but can scarcely do more than write a good hand. He has great influence with a certain set of worthless fellows, but lost much of this with the better class of browns and blacks who have suffered from the seeking and acting on his advice.

6. Some little time ago, ——— gave him employment as a servant-of-all-work. He at present does writing or anything he can for a livelihood, and is very badly off. After the rebellion broke out, and G. W. Gordon was apprehended, he expressed great uneasiness and fear, and complained to the Inspector of Police that he could get no rest. I believe he is mischievous, but a poor creature if really action should be required of him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON, *Custos, St. Elizabeth.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 6.

Extract from Local Newspaper.

"WHAT shall I say about this most lamentable outbreak in St. Thomas in the East, but that I am most deeply grieved and shocked—not because your island papers throw the blame of it on me. On that score I have no regrets. My letter, now to become more

famous than ever, was not addressed to the people of Jamaica, and it was the Governor's act to give it the publicity it has acquired. But I grieve for the people who have lost their lives, and for the massacre in the name of justice which has followed it; I can only console myself with the hope that God will bring good for Jamaica out of it."

Inclosure 5 in No. 6.

Extract from the Jamaica "Guardian" of December 20, 1865.

A LETTER appeared in the "Morning Journal" of Monday last, which we publish in another column, with the view of making some comments on it. The writer, we believe, is a Baptist Minister, who resides in a south side parish, not in Kingston, but this neither adds to nor detracts from the statements made.

Let it be clearly understood that we believe, and have always believed Dr. Underhill to be a talented, pious, and devoted Minister of the Gospel, and that he would never, knowingly, incite to rebellion or wrong-doing, and that we are sure none in Great Britain more heartily deplores the late atrocities at Morant Bay than he; but we as emphatically state it as our belief, and are as thoroughly convinced of the correctness of the assertion, that Dr. Underhill's letter, and the action of certain Baptist missionaries and others regarding it, were some of the principal causes of the St. Thomas in the East rebellion.

When Dr. Underhill says he never meant his letter to be published in Jamaica, then he shows himself either very weak or quite unacquainted with the routine of official life. Simultaneously with his letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies was the publication in the "Christian World," and other newspapers, and in several religious magazines in England, of appalling accounts of the "nakedness and starvation of multitudes in Jamaica," and the most earnest appeals to the British public for aid in money or clothing to relieve the distress. Aid was rendered, but, singular enough, it was help only for the Baptists of Jamaica—not for sufferers of any other denomination. Well, probably, the donors specified to whom their alms were to be given, and we only call attention to this fact as a rather curious way of relieving general distress, nakedness, and starvation. When it is borne in mind that Dr. Underhill is one of the Secretaries of the Baptist Missionary Society in England, the probable connection between the writer of the letter to Mr. Cardwell, and the writer or promulgator of the principal statements made in the English newspapers and magazines, to which we have referred in the foregoing, may be traced. But whether Dr. Underhill was responsible or not for a great deal of what appeared in England about Jamaica starvation, he had no reason to imagine that Mr. Cardwell would not send a copy of his letter to the Governor of Jamaica, and ask his opinion thereon. Therefore, it is sheer silliness, or something worse, for Dr. Underhill, or any friend of his here, to strive to excuse him (the Doctor) from the natural consequences which have resulted from that letter, by saying that he did not mean it for publication in Jamaica, and it was the Governor's fault for publishing it.

Let us grant that Dr. Underhill was sincere in his belief of the truthfulness of his statements when he wrote that letter, and that he meant Mr. Cardwell to take action on it. Then surely neither Dr. Underhill, nor any of his friends, would wish or expect that the contents of that letter, and the writer's name, should be kept from the Governor and the people of this Colony. Surely the character of a class of people, and the legislation of the country, as it affected the peasantry, should not be so misrepresented without Mr. Cardwell and Governor Eyre letting the best men in the country know the serious statements and charges made. No; Dr. Underhill must, or at least might have known well, what the Colonial Secretary and the Governor of this Colony should and would do, and if they, having done it, it is more than weak—it is most disingenuous—to say he did not mean the letter for publication in this island.

Why should any class of persons in Jamaica, and more particularly a journal like ours, be prejudiced against Dr. Underhill and the Baptist missionaries of Jamaica? We certainly have never liked the Baptist system of Church Government, with its "Leaders" and "Daddies," and its system of money payments, for tickets of admission to the "enquirers' class," and the Communion. Nor have we approved of the action of several of them in the politics of the country, and in the labour and wages questions; but those who so committed themselves, were but a few out of many; and we rarely came in contact with the three or four religion politico Baptist missionaries. But we have not been unobservant of facts and of their application, and we have in the late Underhill controversy had reasons as a journal to condemn, first, the unwarrantable and grossly exaggerated statements of Dr. Underhill; second, the conduct of those Baptist missionaries

who furnished Dr. Underhill with the material which he used; third, that of those Baptist missionaries who, when Dr. Underhill's statements were refuted by the public press of Jamaica, still insisted that they were correct, and abused those who differed from them; and fourth, the action of the Baptist missionaries who called mass-meetings of the peasantry, to persuade them that they were sufferiug from abject poverty and distress, to the point of starvation, and that every other statement of Dr. Underhill was substantially correct.

It is arrant twaddle for "a lover of justice" to tell the public that it will be to the interest of all classes not to alienate the Baptists from them, but to regard them as they are, among their best and sincerest friends. We suppose the writer meant "Baptist missionaries." Well, whenever the Baptist missionaries are good men, laborious and self-denying missionaries, and act judiciously, they should be "highly esteemed for their character and their works' sake;" but when Baptist missionaries, mix themselves up too much in politics, write statements calculated to mislead the public mind of Great Britain and elsewhere, and thereby injure this Colony, they must be held responsible for their acts, like any clergyman or any other missionary. As long as the Baptist missionaries pursue their calling, in the footsteps of their Master, we shall yield them all the support in our power; but when they act in such a way as to injure the common weal, and excite the peasantry to discontent, murmuring, and indirectly, though not wilfully, to something much worse, we certainly shall comment legitimately on their acts.

No doubt the Baptist missionaries did not intend their Secretary to write to Mr. Cardwell; but Dr. Underhill framed his letter on their statements, and therefore they are responsible for misleading their Secretary. Again, it was the bounden duty of the press of Jamaica to give publicity to such statements, and when certain Baptist missionaries endeavoured to make out that Dr. Underhill was correct, and the island press wrong, and when to these attempts abuse was indulged in and mass meetings of the peasantry were held to bolster up a bad case, the press had to expose these doings. If in following this course undue "prominence" was given to Dr. Underhill's letter, then not the press, but the men who wrote a pamphlet in proof of Dr. Underhill's statements, and called mass meetings and indulged therein in improper language, which, through a fanatic like Gordon, culminated in massacre and rebellion, are to blame. "A lover of justice" has no claim whatever to the title, and had he signed himself "a prejudiced bigot and a thick and thin partizan," he would have been nearer the truth. We will never abuse any sect or denomination in Jamaica, but we hope they will bear with us when we tell them the truth. Certainly they will never frighten us from our duty by any threats of what they can, may or will do, either to us or the country at large.

No. 7.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 337.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of despatches received from the Governors of St. Thomas and St. Croix, with copies of my replies thereto.

I have, &c,

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

The Governor of St. Thomas to Governor Eyre.

Your Excellency, *Government House, St. Thomas, December* 1, 1865.

IN the French mail-steamer "Caravelle," arrived here from Kingston in the course of last week, besides the Emperor Soulouque with his family, several Haytian refugees, amongst others one General Salomon and General Lamothe with family. The first of the last mentioned (Salomon) has presented to me a royal proclamation, ordering him from various reasons to leave the Island of Jamaica, subject, if he returns, to punishment according to martial law. Said individual together with others having applied to this Government for permission to take up their abode in the Danish West India Islands, I hope you will not consider it an indiscretion to beg you to inform this Government if

those persons have been accused of being implicated in the late insurrection in Jamaica, or in any treasonable act against the Queen's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. ROTHE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Governor Eyre to the Governor of St. Thomas.

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of the 1st instant, relative to certain Haytian refugees lately domiciled in Jamaica, but recently ordered peremptorily to quit the Colony, I have the honour to inform you that no evidence was obtained of their having any complicity in the late insurrection amongst the negroes of Jamaica.

But they were found, whilst enjoying the shelter and protection of British territory, abusing the hospitality thus afforded to concoct plots against the legitimate authorities of Hayti, a Government at amity with Great Britain.

Some of these parties having been suspected and warned some considerable time ago, positively denied being engaged in any transactions of the kind, though it has since been found that they had been so engaged at the time of this denial; and more recently they were captured in the very act, when the vessel in which the expedition had embarked was driven back by stress of weather to Port Antonio, and there taken possession of by the military authorities with General Lamothe and others on board.

The ex-Emperor Soulouque was not included in the order to depart, as there was no proof of his complicity, but it appears he elected to go with the rest by family ties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

The Governor-in-chief of the Danish West India Islands to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Government House, St. Croix, November* 29, 1865.

I HAD the honour on the 14th instant to receive information of a Proclamation issued by your Excellency on the 6th instant, to prevent ill-disposed Haytian refugees from coming to and residing in the Island of Jamaica, and I caused the contents of the said Proclamation at once to be communicated to all the police authorities in the Danish West India Islands.

On the 23rd instant the ex-Emperor of Hayti, Soulouque, and ex-General Salomon arrived at St. Thomas in the French steamer "Caravelle" from Jamaica, and they are up to now staying at St. Thomas's with the intention, as it is rumoured, of taking up their future residence either there or in St. Croix.

As it is of great importance to me to obtain reliable knowledge whether the said refugees have during their residence in Jamaica given the authorities there cause to entertain suspicion against them, either for having engaged in plots against the existing Government of Hayti, or for instigating disaffection among certain classes of the people of Jamaica, and whether they in consequence thereof might have been ordered away from the Island, so as to enable me to decide whether or not it would be advisable to allow them to reside in any of the Danish Islands, I beg leave to request your Excellency to favour me with any information in the above mentioned respect, which you may deem to be of use to me for the aforesaid purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. BRUN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

Governor Eyre to the Governor-in-chief of St. Croix.

Sir, *King's House, December* 20, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, relative to certain Haytian refugees lately domiciled in Jamaica, but recently ordered peremptorily to quit the Colony, I have the

honour to inform you that no evidence was obtained of their having any complicity in the late insurrection amongst the negroes of Jamaica.

But they were found, whilst enjoying the shelter and protection of British territory, abusing the hospitality thus afforded to concoct plans against the legitimate authorities of Hayti, a Government at amity with Great Britain.

Some of these parties having been suspected and warned some considerable time ago, positively denied being engaged in any transactions of the kind, though it has since been found that they had been so engaged at the time of this denial, and more recently they were captured in the very act when the vessel in which the expedition had embarked was driven back by stress of weather to Port Antonio, and there taken possession of by the military authorities with General Lamothe and others on board.

The ex-Emperor Souloque was not included in the order to depart, as there was no proof of his complicity, but it appears he elected to go with the rest being connected with them by family ties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 8.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 338.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 21, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Report received from the Inspector of Police of Spanish Town, showing that illegal drilling has been going on in the parish of St. Dorothy's, and that upon capturing some of the persons engaged in these drills and searching their houses several fire-arms and a large number of bullets were found concealed.

These practices appear to be going on more or less in various districts of the Colony.

A recent Act forbidding unauthorized drilling, and which will be transmitted by the next packet, will enable the Government to put a stop to these proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

Mr. Ramsay to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Spanish Town, Police Office, December* 11, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report, for his Excellency the Governor's information, that having been informed by Mr. Justice Manners that a body of men were accustomed to drill for improper purposes in the parish of St. Dorothy, I yesterday (Sunday) sent policemen in plain clothes by different roads, and myself proceeded with Dr. Manners unobserved to the place of supposed rendezvous, but could not find any one there. This place is the yard near a shop kept by William Thomas, at a settlement called "Pott-house Penn," distant about four miles from Old Harbour and an equal distance from the Red Hills, St. John's.

I found the head constable of the place, named Lawrence, and he reluctantly confessed that on Sunday the 24th November he had seen about twenty-four men drilling, with red cloth on their arms and caps, seven of whom he named.

On sending policemen to these men's houses and Dr. Manners and myself proceeding to William Thomas's private residence, it was found that they were all away, and it was supposed had gone to a place in the woods, the women refusing to give any information. It was then about 4 P.M.

After waiting for about an hour and a half, the men were seen coming back one by one, and were made prisoners as pointed out by Lawrence.*

Mr. Justice Manners gave me an order to search their houses, which was done in their presence.

In William Thomas's house I found concealed under his bed and covered up by

* William Thomas, Daniel Pingaley, Robt. Lawrence, James Blake, William Thompson, James Rose, and Daniel Ritter.

female apparel, two fowling-pieces, one small pocket-pistol, two powder-flasks (very little powder), and a very large quantity of bullets and slugs,* with a bullet mould, also an old shako.

In Daniel Pingaley's house a sword (infantry officer's) without scabbard, a machet, and a bamboo stick covered at intervals with red cloth, said to be used for drill purposes.

In another prisoner's house another gun was found.

None of these guns have they paid taxes for.

William Thomas was cautioned (after hearing the charge he was taken into custody for) that he need say nothing, but what he did say would be used for or against him, and he voluntarily stated that he got the men together and drilled them for amusement, and to enable them to join the Old Harbour Volunteers.

The seven prisoners are in the Lockup, Old Harbour, awaiting magisterial inquiry on Wednesday next.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GORDON D. RAMSAY, *Inspector of Police.*

P.S.—It was getting dark when the searching commenced, and, considering the number of persons who reside in the neighbourhood, every opportunity was offered to concealment, although the police were very alert. Tambourines, horns, &c., were found. Since writing, William Findlayson has surrendered, making eight as yet in custody.

G. D. R.

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

Statement of Stephen Fuller Lawrence.

STEPHEN FULLER LAWRENCE sworn, states: I know all the seven prisoners present at the police station this day, Sunday, December 10th. I remember seeing them at drill at Pot House Penn, in a yard of Mrs. Patten, rented by William Thomas, one of the prisoners; this was this day two weeks, the 26th November. I asked what they were about; they said they were practising themselves to join the volunteers at the market: they had pieces of red cloth on their jacket sleeves, and red on their caps. William Thomas had a piece of paper in his hand, and was drilling them.

(Signed) STEPHEN F. LAWRENCE.

Sworn to before me this 10th day of December, 1865.
(Signed) THOMAS MANNERS, *J.P.*

No. 9.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 339.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of various correspondence I have had with Major-General O'Connor, relative to movements of or arrangements for the troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 6, 1865.

IN reference to your Excellency's letter of the 5th ultimo, stating, "the Custos of Vere reports the military stationed there may be withdrawn in a fortnight from the present date," I have now the honour to request I may be favoured with your Excellency's views with regard to the troops at the above station, the last advices showing 25 per cent. sick, and I am anxious to have them withdrawn as early as convenient, providing there are no political objections opposing this measure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

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* 89 bullets, 64 large shot, 11 slugs.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 7, 1865.

WITH reference to your letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to state, that having arranged with the Admiral a vessel of war shall be stationed at Carlisle Bay for a time, the detachment can safely be withdrawn when such vessel takes up her position, and which, I believe, will be in a week or ten days before Christmas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Kingston, December* 8, 1865.

I AM desirous of having the small detachment 1st West India Regiment removed from Manchioneal to Morant Bay, and trust your Excellency will have no objection to this arrangement.

The detachment consists of only ten men, and is under charge of Lieutenant Warrington, of the Militia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 4 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 14, 1865.

IN reply to your Excellency's letter of the 8th instant, relative to the removal from Manchioneal to Morant Bay of the small detachment 1st West India Regiment, I have to state that I have no objection whatever to the arrangement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 7, 1865.

FROM representations made to me as to the state of the district lying south-west of Montego Bay and north-east of Black River, the Government considers it important that troops should be temporarily stationed in those districts.

2. I have, therefore, to request your Excellency will be pleased to direct the detachment now at Black River to be moved up to Oxford, about thirty miles inland, and the detachment now at Montego Bay to be moved up to Kew Park, about sixteen miles inland.

3. At Kew Park the overseer's house has been placed at the disposal of the Government for a barrack, and is, I understand, suitable for the purpose.

4. At Oxford good accommodation can be provided at once for half the detachment, and efforts will be made on the return of Mr. Coke, a Member of Assembly and large proprietor in that district, to house the remainder; but in the mean time it will be desirable that camp equipage should be provided sufficient for half the detachment, and as the dry weather season is now at hand, the men would suffer no inconvenience or risk, especially as the climate is, I am informed, an excellent one.

5. The detachment from Black River would be able to move up the river by boats to Elin Wharf, within eight miles of Oxford, where waggons would meet them to convey their baggage, &c.

6. I inclose a memorandum from Mr. Coke in reference to the facilities afforded by the locality.

7. Prior to the troops being removed from Black River and Montego Bay, a vessel of war will be permanently stationed at each of those localities.

8. These vessels will be ready to sail on Tuesday the 12th instant, and will convey anything your Excellency may require to forward to either station.

9. I should wish the detachments to be moved inland as requested, with the least possible delay after the vessels of war take up their positions.

10. As the Christmas season is now approaching, the Admiral has arranged that vessels of war should be stationed at the following ports:—Morant Bay, Montego Bay, Savanna la Mar, Port Antonio, Lucea, Black River, Carlisle Bay, and I shall be obliged by your Excellency causing instructions to be given to the officers in command of the various detachments at the outposts, to the effect that for some little time before and after Christmas, extra watchfulness and care should be exercised, as the period is one when the negroes are unemployed, and more likely to engage in disturbances than at any other.

11. In the event of any difficulty or disturbance requiring the presence of troops inland or away from the stations they are located at, no difficulty would arise from their making such movement, as the Admiral has arranged that in any such cases, marines or blue jackets should be landed to supply the place of the troops called away elsewhere.

12. I trust, however, that the precautions taken will obviate the necessity of resorting to any more coercive measures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 11, 1865.

IN continuation of my letter of the 5th instant, I have the honour to forward a statement * of the condition and requirements of the sites Malvern and Bull Dead, proposed to be permanently occupied by troops, and to request that, should your Excellency contemplate these being made permanent military stations, you will favour me with your instructions.

"Black River" is not considered a healthy position for troops, and the detachment now at Mandeville are much crowded, and require more accommodation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 7 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 14, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated 5th and 11th instant relative to the condition and requirements of the sites occupied by Her Majesty's troops as outposts.

In reply I have to state, that as soon as the Christmas holidays are over the Government will consider what stations it may be necessary to maintain as permanent garrisons; and in the meantime I may observe that the Colonial Government will be quite prepared to incur the expenditure necessary to make the stations so selected suitable and comfortable for the troops intended to occupy it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Not printed.

Inclosure 8 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 12, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will inform me for what length of period you wish the troops kept in the several places named in the margin,* so that I may cause steps to be taken to have them provided with supplies; the present arrangements being only of a temporary nature.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

Inclosure 9 in No. 9.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 14, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of the 12th instant, requesting me to inform you what length of time I wish the troops to be kept in the several places named in the margin of your letter.

In reply I beg to state, that at present it is impossible to state with accuracy for what length of time it may be necessary to keep up the greater number of the stations referred to.

The withdrawal of two (Manchioneal and Vere) has already been sanctioned. Two others (Montego Bay and Black River) it has been considered necessary to move further inland for the present.

The other nine will probably require to be kept as they are for some time to come.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 9.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 5, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a statement† of the repairs and additions necessary to buildings at the several stations visited by me during my recent tour of military stations round the Island of Jamaica, in order to render the accommodation suitable for troops, if they are to be quartered at them.

May I request you will be good enough to favour me with your decision whether the probable cost (6,900*l.*) can be granted; if not, it is impossible for the troops to remain for any length of time in the dilapidated and confined quarters they at present occupy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 10.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

(No. 340.)

Sir, *King's House, Jamaica, December* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of two addresses which have this day been presented to me from the inhabitants of the Porus District and from the parish of Vere.

They are numerously and respectably signed; and, I believe, represent the sentiments generally entertained throughout the island, both with regard to the immediate danger the entire colony has been in, and also in reference to the abolition of the existing form of

* 1. Montego Bay; 2. Port Maria; 3. Brown's Town; 4. Falmouth; 5. Lucea; 6. Savanna la Mar; 7. Mandeville; 8. Black River; 9. Morant Bay; 10. Golden Grove; 11. Manchioneal; 12. Vere; 13. Port Antonio.

† Not printed.

Legislature, and the substitution of one in which the Crown shall have substantial power.

I append, also, copies of my replies.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Address from the Inhabitants of the Parish of Vere.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America.

WE, the undersigned Inhabitants of the parish of Vere, beg leave respectfully to express to your Excellency our deep thankfulness and gratitude for the prompt, decisive, and wise measures adopted by your Excellency for the suppression of the rebellion in St. Thomas East.

To such measures, and to the skilful disposition and bravery of Her Majesty's land and sea forces, volunteers, and maroons, we attribute the prevention of the extension of the rebellion beyond that section of the island where, as we believe, it prematurely broke out, and thereby insuring its ultimate suppression.

Had your Excellency's measures been less prompt, or the success of the forces in the field less complete, or had any misfortune occurred through which the rebels might have made progress to the westward and joined the disaffected, too well known to exist in other parts of the country, we contemplate with horror the scenes of murder, rapine, and atrocity which would have too surely followed any such misfortune.

To your Excellency, therefore, and to the brave troops in the field of every denomination, we owe, under Divine Providence, our lives, our properties, and all that is dear to us; and we sincerely trust that such eminent services will be duly appreciated and rewarded by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

We heartily concur with your Excellency in the necessity of establishing a strong Government in this colony; we have long been convinced that the present Constitution is not suited to the conditions of society here, and has not worked and cannot work for the promotion of the social and material interests of the people. We shall hail, therefore, with pleasure the abolition of the present Constitution and the substitution of another better calculated to ensure the peace, safety, and well-being of all classes of the community.

(Signed) LOUIS MACKINNON, *Custos.*
(And 56 others.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Reply of Governor Eyre.

Mr. Custos and Gentlemen,

I THANK you very sincerely for your loyal and kind address, recording your approval of the steps taken by me to put down the late insurrection, and your belief that but for its prompt suppression in the eastern districts the rebellion would rapidly have extended amongst the disaffected of other parishes, and the whole island have become the theatre of outrage and bloodshed.

I fully share in your belief, and regard it as most providential that the first rising took place apparently prematurely, and thereby frustrated that more simultaneous action among the negroes of different parishes which there is every reason to think was contemplated, and which had it taken place at a time when we were so ill prepared to meet the emergency would have entailed incalculable horror, and must have led to a protracted and bloody struggle.

I am happy to think that the large reinforcements of both military and naval forces, so generously sent to our aid, and the rapid formation of local volunteer corps for self-defence, have so far reversed our position, that I trust we shall now be able to prevent any further attempts at rising amongst the disaffected, and certainly should be able at once to put down any such attempts, if made.

Most cordially do I rejoice with you in the prospect which the abolition of the existing constitution, and the substitution of one better adapted to the circumstances and requirements of Jamaica, holds out of future good government and progress, and earnestly

do I pray that the new order of things about to be brought into operation may conduce largely to the re-establishment of order and tranquillity, based upon the only solid foundation, the respect, loyalty, and regard of a people prosperous, contented, and happy under the advantages of a genial climate, a fertile soil, and the blessings conferred by freedom and equal laws.

You will be glad to learn that I have been honoured with the high approval of Her Majesty's Government of the measures taken by me for repressing and preventing the spread of the late insurrection.

King's House.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Address of the Inhabitants of Porus.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Governor of the Island of Jamaica and its Dependencies, &c.

WE, the undersigned, being a portion of the inhabitants of Porus, Manchester, chiefly of the labouring class, connected with the London Missionary Society, approach your Excellency with sentiments of loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and of respect to your Excellency as Her Majesty's Representative.

We feel thankful to Almighty God for having disposed your Excellency to act with promptitude and energy during the unexpected emergency which arose in connection with the late atrocious rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and for having crowned your Excellency's efforts to restore order and tranquillity with signal success.

We respectfully tender to your Excellency our grateful acknowledgment for your thorough self-abnegation during the critical crisis, one proof of which was in repairing in person to the disturbed districts, and for your sound discretion in the precautionary measures adopted since the suppression of the rebellion for the preservation of peace. These afford unmistakeable indication of your Excellency's paramount interest in the welfare of the colony, and anxious solicitude for the protection of the loyal portion of the inhabitants generally.

We beg to express to your Excellency our conviction that there are among us men faithful and true, ready to maintain to the death their loyalty to the Queen. With these we are identified, but we deeply deplore the fact that with rights and privileges equally secured to all classes, thus leaving the peasantry without any real grievance (except it be in individual cases of injustice and oppression, which the law does not sanction, and which must more or less occur in every country), there should be prevalent in the island a spirit of disaffection and disloyalty.

Your Excellency will permit us to say further, that whatever might be the immediate occasion of the outbreak at Morant Bay, the idle habits and wilful ignorance of a large proportion of the labouring population are in our opinion among the predisposing causes of rebellion.

Local circumstances in St. Thomas-in-the-East no doubt contributed to the rapid development of what was latent, and made evident that there were indolent and deluded creatures there desiring to obtain property without patient and persevering industry, and who became the willing tools in the hands of political demagogues, men of some intelligence and in better circumstances than themselves; but the smouldering embers of sedition and disloyalty, of murder and rapine, are, we fear, not far to seek anywhere among the idle and ignorant, the credulous and vicious, who with their imaginary grievances have been indoctrinated into the belief that Jamaica is or ought to be theirs.

We respectfully submit to your Excellency, that any legislative enactment to remove these growing evils of indolence and ignorance, and to promote honest industry and compulsory education as remedial agencies (without increasing public taxation) would deserve a place among the most effective measures of a strong and good Government, and would not only prevent the majority of the peasantry receding into barbarism and repeating at uncertain intervals their deeds of blood, but would also tend to elevate them in the scale of intelligence, develop the resources of the country, and by necessary consequence lead to permanently satisfactory results.

Trusting that a gracious Providence will continue to preside over your Excellency and family, and that wisdom from above, profitable to direct, may be granted in connection with the administration of the affairs of this important colony, we are, &c.

(Signed) ALEXANDER LINDO, *London Missionary.*
H. P. W. BAKER, *Merchant.*
&c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 4 in No. 10.

Reply of Governor Eyre.

Reverend Sir and Gentlemen,

I THANK you sincerely for your loyal address, and for the expressions of your approval of the measures taken by me to put down the late wicked outbreak in the Eastern parts of the Island, and to preserve peace and tranquillity in the other districts.

I sincerely hope that under God's blessing the precautions taken will prove effectual, and that the misguided and deluded peasantry who either from idleness and vice or under a mistaken impression of supposed wrongs have been ready to join in rebellion against their Sovereign may see the folly and wickedness of all such attempts, and in the course of time settle down under the advice and teaching of their ministers into a peaceable, honest, and industrious population.

Recognizing with you the necessity of endeavouring to improve the social, intellectual, and moral condition of the peasantry of this country, I look forward with great hope to a changed Constitution, enabling the Government to do much to ameliorate the condition of the people and to promote the general welfare of the Colony, which could not be accomplished with the present unworkable system of Government under which the Island has so long been weighed down.

King's House.

No. 11.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

(No. 341.)

Sir, *King's House, December 22, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the Address with which I this day closed the recent Session.

As little doubt appears to be entertained but that the existing Legislature will shortly cease to exist under the Act to alter and amend the Constitution, sent home in my despatch No. 313* of the 7th instant, it is in vain to attempt to transact any further business. The old personal or party feelings and vindictive animosities seem to be rev ving in all their usual bitterness; and some Members appear only anxious to take advantage of the last opportunity likely to be afforded them to indulge in personalities, and cause all the obstruction and annoyance they can.

Under such circumstances, with the concurrence of my Constitutional Advisers, I have deemed it unadvisable to protract the Session.

Indeed, the one great act which has been achieved for the change of the Constitution and the necessary provision for the expenditure of the country are all that could be required or ought to be attempted on the eve of so great a change, and which may so shortly be given effect to and thereby render further legislation now a matter of no importance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Speech of Governor Eyre on Closing the Session.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

IN releasing you from further attendance upon your legislative duties, I cannot lose sight of the probability that you may never be called upon to exercise those duties again under the existing form of constitution; and that this generous sacrifice has been consummated by yourselves from an earnest and sincere desire, regardless of all personal considerations, to benefit the Colony.

On behalf of that Colony, and of the many interests associated with it, I return you the thanks which are so justly your due. History will record the heroic act, and I trust that history will show from the ameliorated state of the country and a renewed prosperity that your noble self-devotion has not been in vain.

* *Vide* page 196, Part I.

It is right, however, that I should warn you not to expect this amelioration, or this return of prosperity, to take place suddenly. It is a work of time and labour to retrieve fallen fortunes, or to reconstruct that which is in a state of decadence and decay; and doubly so must this be the case in dealing with the circumstances of a Colony which, like Jamaica, has long been retrograding, is difficult of supervision from its great extent and physical features, and requires an expenditure in excess of the means which its impoverished condition can properly supply.

I believe, however, that you have taken the only course which holds out any hope of success, and I am confident that the best efforts, both of Her Majesty's Government and of the local administration, will be most anxiously and unceasingly directed to attain that success, and thereby justify the confidence you have so generously reposed in the Crown.

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

I thank you for the supplies you have granted to Her Majesty. It will be the earnest endeavour of the Executive to apply the means you have placed at its disposal, as economically and as usefully as possible.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

The session which is now about to terminate has been the most important that has ever taken place since Jamaica became a dependency of the British Crown.

It is impossible to help regretting the necessity which has enforced the abandonment of institutions so deservedly dear to every British heart, and which ever in this Colony have remained unchanged for a period of 200 years; but it is wiser and better, circumstanced as we are, to give up institutions which were valued rather for the associations which are connected with them than for any advantages which have resulted to the Colony, from their existence in Jamaica, and to substitute in their place a perhaps less showy and less time-honoured form of Government, but which is certainly more practicable, and better suited to the altered circumstances of our position.

Well, I think it is, that we have taken warning by the terrible circumstances which have forced upon us the conviction that a Government, to be effective in times of difficulty and danger, must be a strong and united one, and well will it be if, by a voluntary reconstruction, the community may receive some compensation in future good government for the dreadful calamity with which it has just been afflicted.

Gentlemen,

In dismissing you to your homes, I am happy to think that the precautions taken for preserving the tranquillity and safety of the country districts are likely to be successful; and I fervently trust that the feeling of disaffection and excitement which so strongly pervaded a portion of our population, but which, so far as I am aware, rest upon no just or valid grounds, may shortly subside, and the entire Colony be again speedily restored to that feeling of perfect confidence and security which existed prior to the occurrence of the late unhappy outbreak.

In quitting one sphere of usefulness, gentlemen, you do but return to another; for it is at your own homes, and by your own example, influence, and teaching, that the rural population must be guided and directed, if they are to become a useful, contented, and prosperous people.

I do now, in Her Majesty's name, prorogue this General Assembly to Tuesday, the 30th January next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly.

No. 12.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(Extract.) *King's House, December* 22, 1865.

IN my despatch of even date, I had the honour to transmit "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present Session entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,'" together with such information as appeared necessary to enable Her Majesty to bring it into immediate operation.

I am very anxious as to the decision Her Majesty's Government may come to with regard to the form of constitution to be established, and I cannot too strongly urge that advantage should be taken of the opening thus given by the existing Legislature

itself to create as the new machinery that which alone can vest substantial power in the Crown, a small and purely nominee Council, to consist of half officials and half non-officials, under the presidency of the Governor.

No other form of Council would represent any but the planting interests, and the Government might often find it impossible to get measures passed which are necessary for the welfare of the Colony at large, but which the planters might consider antagonistic to their own individual or class interests. This one fact is, I think, sufficient objection to any other form of Council; but there is also the very important further one that it is most desirable that the black and coloured population should not be agitated by periodical elections, which always offer an opening for discontented or seditious demagogues to work upon an excitable and easily misled populace, and especially so considering that from the disfranchisement which would take place under the "Act to alter and amend the Constitution of this Island," there would be a feeling of dissatisfaction and irritation, established in the first instance as a grievance for such demagogues to expatiate upon.

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No. 13.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 22, 1865.

IN my despatch No. 313* of the 7th December, 1865, I had the honour to transmit "An Act to alter and amend the Constitution of this Island."

Prior to the passing of this Act several influential members of the Legislature had spoken to me, and proposed, instead of defining the nature of the new Constitution, simply to abolish the existing one, and leave a carte blanche for the Queen to call into existence any form of Constitution Her Majesty might deem best.

Knowing that the policy and practice of the Crown of late years has been to throw upon the Colonial Legislatures the onus of amending their own Constitutions, I did not feel at liberty to acquiesce in the proposition thus made, and an endeavour was made instead to pass a Bill which should be complete in all its details.

The moment, however, that particulars had to be entered upon and considered, the usual Jamaica difficulties and obstructions arose from personal considerations or private feelings, and in order to secure any measure at all a compromise had to be arranged. This compromise resulted in the "Act to alter and amend the Constitution," sent home in the last packet.

The only point in it upon which all the parties who combined to enact it thoroughly agreed, was the immediate and entire abolition of the House of Assembly.

The remaining portions of the Act were more or less distasteful to one or other of the consenting parties; and although the Act is a very workable one, and a vast improvement upon the existing state of things, it cannot be regarded as indicating the particular form of Constitution which the majority of the members of the present Legislature desire to see established, and still less does it represent the wishes of the majority of the influential and intelligent colonists outside the Legislative Bodies, and who, for the most part, I believe, would far rather see substantial power vested in the Crown through the medium of a purely nominee Council.

Such being the state of the case when your private and confidential intimation reached me that the Crown would be disposed, in the present crisis of Jamaica, to deviate from its ordinary policy and practice, and under certain conditions accept whatever amount of responsibility circumstances might seem to require, I felt justified in making known this intimation to the Legislature, and inviting them to amend the Act recently passed and sent home, so as to sweep away the details of the proposed new Constitution, and leave it entirely to Her Majesty to create any other form that might be thought better.

The House has responded loyally to this invitation, and I now transmit an Act making the suggested change.

Of course it was clearly understood that the object in making this alteration was to give the Crown, if it undertook the responsibility, absolute power to ensure its directions being carried out.

I transmit copies of Messages which passed between myself and the House of Assembly on the subject.

It is now my duty respectfully to offer the opinion which I had arrived at after a four

* *Vide* page 196, Part I.

years' practical acquaintance with the working of the Jamaica institutions, of the form of constitution which I consider most likely to secure good government in the Colony, and re-establish confidence at home, and thereby most surely conduce to the preservation of peace and tranquillity within the island, and to the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of all classes of the community.

Were the "Act to alter and amend the Constitution of this Island," which was sent home by the last packet, to come into practical operation, it would have this great disadvantage attending, that it would for the most part represent only one class of interests, those of the planters. The Crown is debarred from appointing more than one office-holder, and as there are very few professional or mercantile gentlemen in the Colony who are not planters, or pecuniarily connected with the planting interests, it follows that almost the entire Legislative Chamber under the new Act would represent that one class only—a very serious drawback where there are so many classes and interests requiring to be legislated for.

The only way of avoiding this difficulty is by vesting substantial power in the Crown, and this can only be done by means of a purely nominee Council, like that of Trinidad or Ceylon. Such a Council should not be inconveniently large. In Trinidad the Council consists of the Governor, six official and six non-official members. In Ceylon the Council consists of the Governor, nine official members, and six non-official members.

For Jamaica, I would recommend that the Legislative Council should consist of the Governor as President (with a casting vote), six official members, and six non-official members.

I would recommend, also, that, in lieu of the present Privy Council, there should be established an Executive Council, to consist of the Governor and four official members.

In place of the Executive Committee, whose services in connection with the Legislature (for which they were originally constituted) would not be required, I would recommend the creation of two new Departments, to be presided over by officers to be designated respectively Commissioner of Finance and Commissioner of Public Works and Roads.

The first should have the duty of superintending and preparing, subject to the Governor's directions and approval, all matters connected with finance arrangements, the preparation of estimates, &c., with such other duties as the Governor may from time to time devolve upon him.

The second should have the duty of superintending and preparing, subject to the Governor's directions and approval, all matters connected with arrangements relative to public works, roads, &c., with such other duties as the Governor may from time to time devolve upon him.

An absolute necessity exists, if the Executive Committee be abolished (as it must be under such a form of Government as I propose), for the substitution in its place of two other officers, such as I have suggested, to aid the Governor in the very laborious work of arranging the details of the expenditure and supervising the general current work in connection with the two departmental branches named.

At present the entire expenditure of the parishes is submitted to the Executive Committee, and so are all the arrangements relative to public works and roads, whether of a general character or parochial.

It would be a physical impossibility for the Governor to undertake these duties; indeed they would afford ample employment to two officers at all times; and it would be better that these officers should be permanent and departmental, and thus the bone of contention be removed which now exists in a Committee changeable upon its ceasing to command sufficient influence in the Legislature to conduct the Government business. The Governor would now conduct the legislative business in person.

I would recommend that each of these officers should receive a salary of 1,000*l.* per annum, so as to be on a par with the Chief Secretary. The Executive Committee only receive 800*l.* each, but then their offices are not permanent, and they do not give up their whole time and attention to their public duties, but still carry on their private avocations, and are from time to time absent attending to these latter.

There are also three members of the Executive Committee, so that by appointing only two permanent officers in their place there will be an absolute saving of 400*l.*, even though the permanent officers receive 1,000*l.* each.

The new officers would of course have to give up their whole time and attention to their public duties; in fact, be simply and strictly departmental officers.

The large staff now employed by the Executive Committee, and by the Main Road Board, would, under a little re-arrangement, amply suffice to constitute the working staff of the two new Departments.

I would recommend that the Executive Council should consist of—The Governor, the

Attorney-General, the Chief Secretary, the Commissioner of Finance, the Commissioner of Public Roads and Works.

The Executive Council or any two or more of them to be named by the Governor should also act as Commissioners of Customs and of Audit, and be charged with all the duties which devolve upon such Commissioners under any existing Acts. I have not recommended the Receiver-General as a Member of the Executive Council because his duties would rarely, if ever, admit of his attendance, and because he necessarily resides at Kingston, far away from the seat of Government.

For the same reason I do not advise the Officer in command of the troops being made a Member.

For the Legislative Council I would recommend that the Official Members should consist of—The Chief Justice, the Attorney-General, the Chief Secretary, the Commissioner of Finance, the Commissioner of Public Works and Roads, the Receiver-General.

* * * * *

I have now, I believe, afforded all the information necessary to enable you to give immediate effect to the Act now transmitted, by recommending Her Majesty at once to call into existence the new Constitution which may be decided upon, and to appoint the requisite members of it.

It would, however, probably be desirable for Her Majesty to delegate to the Governor the power of temporarily filling up any vacancies which might arise either from death or from any of the parties named being unable or unwilling to undertake the duties proposed to be devolved upon them.

There is so much requiring to be done in re-organising or re-arranging, and especially with regard to financial matters, that I cannot too strongly urge the importance of the new machinery being called into operation with the least practicable delay, and with this view I have endeavoured to give such full information upon all essential points as may obviate the necessity of any further reference to the Colony.

* * * * *

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

29 Vict., Cap. XXIV.

An Act to amend an Act passed in the present Session, entitled "An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

Preamble.

WHEREAS an Act was passed by the Legislature of this Island during this present session, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island:" and whereas it is desirable that the same should be amended: Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same:

29th Vic., cap. 11, repealed except first clause thereof.

First. That all clauses in the said Act, except the first clause, are hereby repealed, and all the forms annexed to the said Act are also hereby repealed.

The Queen to create new Government for this Island, &c.

Second. In place of the Legislature abolished by the first section of the recited Act, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to create and constitute a Government for this Island, in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty may best seem fitting, and from time to time to alter or amend such Government.

Act not to operate t Royal assent notifie and proclaimed.

Third. This Act shall not come into operation until the same shall have received Her Majesty's royal assent, and such assent shall have been notified in the "London Gazette," and proclaimed by the Governor in this Island.

Passed the Assembly, this 20th day of December, 1865.
(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 21st day December, 1865.
(Signed) SAML. RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 22nd day of December, 1865.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Address of the Legislative Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

WE are ordered by the Assembly to wait on your Excellency, and to assure your Excellency of the willingness of the Assembly to give their serious attention, and best consideration, to the suggestions in your Excellency's Message of this morning; and, as in order to carry out this course of action, the fullest information is essential, to request that your Excellency will be pleased to lay before the Assembly copies of the extracts from the despatch of the Colonial Secretary, dated the 17th of November last, or of any other despatch, referring to the willingness of Her Majesty's Government to assume additional responsibilities in the administration of the internal affairs of this Colony."

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Message to the Legislative Assembly.

IN acknowledging the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, dated the 12th instant the Governor regrets he is unable to afford the House any further or more definite information.

The despatch No. 341* of the 17th November, contains no reference whatever to a change of constitution, nor has the Governor any official communication on the subject.

He has received a private and confidential intimation, in general terms, to the effect embodied in his Message of the 12th, and he considered it to be of so important a character, as affecting the future interests and welfare of the Colony, and as bearing upon the action recently taken by the Legislature on the same subject, that he felt justified in at once making it known to the Legislative bodies, in order that they might have the opportunity, if so disposed, of taking advantage of the opening which this intimation of the disposition of Her Majesty's Government offers, before it be too late.

Whilst the Governor gathers from the communication referred to, that the Queen's Government is willing to assist in any way it legitimately can in providing for the future security and good government of the island, he feels fully assured that the Crown will not undertake the responsibility of directing the affairs of a Colony, circumstanced as Jamaica is, unless wholly unfettered as regards the form of constitution, and the nature of the administrative machinery to be established, under and by means of which those affairs are to be conducted.

E. E.

No. 14.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 344.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt during the night of the 21st instant, of your despatches Nos. 343, 344, and 356† of the 23rd November, 23rd November, and 1st December respectively.

The packet being a day behind time, and yesterday having been absorbed in attending to matters connected with the Legislature which it had been previously arranged I should then close, I am unable to do more than barely acknowledge the receipt of your communications and state that I will lose no time in endeavouring to collect and forward to you, so far as it is procurable, the information asked for in the above despatches. Much of it is however necessarily unattainable, as I understand that at drumhead courts martial it is never usual to keep any records of evidence, and the case of G. W. Gordon is, I believe, exceptional in this respect.

All the officers whose reports require explanation were under the immediate orders of General O'Connor, to whom those reports were forwarded.

I have this day written to General O'Connor a despatch, of which I inclose a copy, forwarding extracts of your despatches, and from the inclosures accompanying them, and I

* Page 239 of Part I.

† *Vide* pages 240, 241, and 245, Part I.

have requested the General will take such steps as are necessary to procure the required information from the officers referred to, with the least possible delay.

As the various officers who were engaged in command of detachments during the rebellion are now more or less scattered, and the chief in command, Brigadier-General Nelson, is absent from the Colony, it is possible that some delay may take place before all can be referred to, and thus some of the information sought may not be procurable at once.

I will, however, transmit to you whatever reports or explanations may reach me as quickly as possible after receiving them, without waiting until the whole are ready.

In the mean time I forward a report from Colonel Fyfe in command of the Maroons, in reference to the very extraordinary allegations made against them in Sir L. M'Clintock's official report to the Admiralty.

I can only say that until I saw that despatch I never heard even the most distant rumour that the Maroons had behaved in the way alleged, and I cannot imagine upon what data Sir L. M'Clintock based his opinion.

I have written to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to request he will call upon Commodore Sir L. M'Clintock to explain the grounds upon which his statement was made, but there is little probability of my receiving it in time for the present mail.

In Colonial communities fabrications and exaggerations of the grossest kind are constantly being circulated either for sheer wantonness, from a desire to appear important in the eyes of those to whom the statements are made, or from worse motives. These *canards* are very generally circulated by the local press, and often obtain currency and credence at a distance ; but an officer in Sir L. M'Clintock's position ought not to take notice of any such unauthorised rumours, or embody in an official report opinions conveying such injurious reflections upon a race which had so recently rendered such valuable service to the Colony without being very sure that his opinions were well founded. That improprieties or acts of wrong have been committed during the existence of martial law I do not doubt. It was only to be expected this should be so, but I trust it will be found eventually that these instances have been comparatively few, and have either been unknown to and unsanctioned by the officers immediately in command, or have taken place under the pressure of circumstances which, if not justifying, may at least in some degree palliate the irregularities committed.

In reviewing the acts of the military and naval authorities in dealing with any rebels who were found in arms or in summarily disposing (after trial by court martial) of those who were taken prisoners, it is necessary to bear in mind that there were no prisons or gaols to which to send prisoners, and that some 500 men were engaged in quelling a rebellion in districts (St. David, St. Thomas-in-the-East, and Portland) tenanted by a population of some 40,000, and comprising upwards of 500 square miles of country. Nor must it be forgotten that nearly the whole of this population, if not in actual rebellion, was sympathising with the rebels, and taking no steps to arrest its progress or aid the authorities.

It was impossible under such circumstances that they could either take charge of and guard any large number of prisoners or make long delays to institute more formal trials. The administration of summary justice became a necessity, and any hesitation would have been fatal to the success of the military operations.

Whilst regretting this necessity of and deploring the evils unavoidably resulting from such a course of action, I do not see how it could have been avoided.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Sunday, 24th December. Since writing this despatch I have received an express from the Admiral containing Sir L. M'Clintock's explanation. You will be glad to learn that his opinion rested on no better grounds than mere rumours or unauthenticated reports and newspaper statements.

I trust this instance will show how little to be depended upon information or opinions are when expressed by persons not having the opportunity of personal knowledge or of referring to authentic reports, and when the grounds are not given upon which such information or opinions rest.

No doubt the tone and terms used in some of the reports by officers engaged in the field are not such as could have been wished, considering the grave events to which they relate ; but great allowances must be made for the circumstances under which these reports were written when harassed and worn out by the duties and anxieties of the day, and whilst the minds of the writers were still freshly impressed with the atrocious occurrences

that had then so recently taken place, and which might again occur in other districts at any moment.

But it is very hard that our soldiers and sailors, whose courage, zeal, and exertions have been the saving of Jamaica, should be so misrepresented and traduced, as I see they are by a large section of their countrymen at home who know nothing of the dangers or difficulties which had to be surmounted, or of the pressing necessity which existed for the most prompt and decisive action.

I have now only to thank you for the confidence you have been pleased to express, pending further information, in my own character and in that of the military and naval officers concerned.

As regards myself, I rest upon the conviction that I did my duty faithfully in not shrinking from undertaking a responsibility which few men would have accepted, and in doing which I was quite aware of what the consequences would be so far as regards misrepresentations and vituperation on the part of a very powerful party at home, but which action on my part I believed to be, and still believe to have been, essential to the preservation of Jamaica. I do not pretend to have acted within the strict trammels of the law—no man could under such circumstances; but I do not doubt being able to justify myself fully to Her Majesty's Government, and those who are willing to take an unprejudiced view of all the circumstances and events. As regards the military and naval officers, I feel assured that they will be able fully to explain and justify occurrences which from being insufficiently narrated at present may appear to be of a somewhat doubtful character; and if in some of the details unavoidable irregularities or improprieties have occurred, the general nature of the operations will be found to have been just and necessary, and consistent with the high character so deservedly enjoyed throughout the world by British soldiers and sailors.

I must ask your indulgence for any shortcomings in my correspondence, or for any omissions to transmit any documents which you may have thought ought to have reached you, as well as for the delay which must necessarily take place in procuring for you replies to the inquiries which you have made. During the existence of the rebellion there was no time to examine critically the hurried reports which were submitted to me for a very hasty perusal, and I had no reason for supposing that any unjustifiable acts were being committed. I have also stated in former despatches that nearly all these reports were transmitted to you immediately on their receipt, and that I had no copies of them, or any opportunity or time for referring to them again until the receipt of your despatches made it necessary for me to call for fresh copies.

For the last ten weeks I have had an overwhelming pressure of work arising from the rebellion and from the arrangements having to be made for the safety and tranquillity of the Island; from the labours incidental to a most important session of the Legislature, under which a total alteration of the Constitution has been effected; from all the ordinary current business of the Island, and from the correspondence connected with the subordinate Governments of British Honduras and Turks Islands. There has scarcely been a day, Sundays even not excepted, that I have not laboured from ten to sixteen hours, and often have been called up in the middle of the night to do so also. This pressure and the anxiety attending my position has seriously affected my health, and I am sure that you will therefore view favourably any deficiencies which may have occurred in my correspondence relative to the late occurrences.

E. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Governor Eyre to Major-General O'Connor.

Sir, *King's House, December* 23, 1865.

IN reference to my letter of the 13th instant on the subject of certain statements made in some of the reports by the officers engaged in suppressing the late rebellion, I have now the honour to transmit to your Excellency extracts (Inclosure No. 1*) from despatches I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, transmitting the portions of the reports above referred to which are considered to require further explanation and justification.

I also inclose a statement (Inclosure No. 2*) of the more general points, in addition to the above specific cases, upon which Her Majesty's Government have called for the fullest and most detailed information.

* Not sent.

The officers from whom further particulars and explanations are at present required, in reference to circumstances briefly and insufficiently stated in reports necessarily written under circumstances of pressure and difficulty, are Colonel Hobbs, Captain Hole, and Lieutenant Adcock, all of the 6th Royal Regiment, and Captain Ford of the St. Thomas-in-the-East Irregular Troop.

Besides a fuller detail of the particulars connected with the other occurrences mentioned in the extracts from Colonel Hobbs' reports, I am to request you will call upon that officer to furnish for the Secretary of State all the information referred to in the passage of his report in which he states: "I have in my possession the most conclusive proof of George William Gordon's being a chief mover in this rebellion."

It would also be desirable that Captain Hole should append to his explanations a general report of the damage to property or other outrages committed by the rebels in the vicinity of Long Bay or Manchioneal, the quarter to which his report of the 17th October more especially refers.

Your Excellency will notice, that the points adverted to in Inclosure No. 2 require to be referred to and fully answered by every officer, whether military or naval, who was at any time in command of detachments operating in the field during the late rebellion under the orders of Brigadier-General Nelson, or under the more immediate directions of your Excellency; and it is desirable that you should impress upon them all the importance of their replies being as full and as explicit as possible, and that each point stated should have a specific reply given to it.

In making these inquiries it is right to inform the officers that Her Majesty's Government does not do so as prejudging any person concerned in any proceeding, but for the purpose of eliciting information not given in the reports, but which it is believed will be forthcoming, and without which it is impossible to justify some of the transactions referred to, and which are only stated by the writers in so very brief, hurried, and incomplete a manner.

In the meantime Her Majesty's Government relies upon the high character of all the officers, civil, military, and naval, who were engaged in suppressing the rebellion, and upon my assurance that the measures taken will prove to have been a merciful substitute for the much larger measure of punishment which would have had to be executed had the rebellion been allowed to gather head and extend itself.

So many misrepresentations and exaggerations appear to have reached England and been credited, that public opinion naturally and necessarily requires that all the facts should be plainly and fully stated to correct the unfavourable impression which has been made upon a portion of the public at home; and I feel sure that when this is done, and it is borne in mind how great and imminent was the danger threatening the entire Colony, and how small and inadequate were our means of meeting the emergency, full justice will be done to the valuable services rendered to the State by the officers under whose supervision the late rebellion was so ably and promptly put down.

It must always be expected that during a time of active operations in the field, and especially when a country is under martial law, some few occurrences must take place which are to be regretted, and which are not accompanied by that strict formality which ought to be observed when practicable. Some cases of impropriety and some acts of injustice must always take place; but I trust it will be found that these have been as few as could reasonably have been hoped for, and have been unknown to and unsanctioned by those more immediately in command.

With regard to the opinion as to the conduct of the Maroons expressed in Sir Leopold M'Clintock's official despatch to the Admiralty, I may remark that I have called upon Colonel Fyfe to report upon the conduct of the Maroons, and that I understood from him at a personal interview yesterday, that so far from Sir Leopold M'Clintock's impression being correct that "at least 800 were shot chiefly by the Maroons," he believes that not more than 25 were so shot, and many of these in a skirmish with the rebels in which one of the Maroons was wounded.

I shall, however, be obliged by your also affording me any reports or information you may have or be able to procure on this subject; certainly, I myself never heard even a rumour to the effect stated by Sir Leopold M'Clintock until I saw it in that officer's official report.

I shall be obliged also by your transmitting to me for the Secretary of State copies of Brigadier-General Nelson's Report and the inclosures attached to it, relating to the proceedings of the court-martial upon George William Gordon which you forwarded on the 22nd October for my perusal, but which was returned at your request without delay by express messenger.

I have only to add further that I am expressly enjoined to have all the information and other particulars called for got ready, and forwarded to Her Majesty's Government

with the least possible delay; and that, therefore, in order to expedite the necessary reports which I shall have to make in transmitting the various documents, I shall be much obliged if your Excellency will be good enough, without waiting until the whole are ready, to forward to me from time to time each explanation or report as it reaches you, or any of the other documents asked for as they are copied.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Kingston, December* 23, 1865.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's instructions to report on the following extract from an official letter of Sir Leopold M'Clintock to the Admiralty, reflecting on the Maroons under my command during the late rebellion:—

"At least 800 were shot, chiefly by the Maroons, who entered with fierce zeal into the bush hunt after the rebel negroes."

It is somewhat difficult, Sir, to answer an accusation which would imply that if "rebel negroes" betake themselves to "the bush" they are not to be followed, and that if followed the duty is not to be performed with "zeal." As to the word "fierce,"—if it be meant to imply the unflinching energy that should mark the conduct of loyal men in the performance of their duty to their Queen and country, those he would accuse will not shrink from pleading guilty to the charge. If, on the contrary, it would imply the ferocity of savages thirsting for the blood of a race the males of which they would torture, mutilate, and exterminate, whilst they would reserve the women for their brutal lusts, I would refer Sir Leopold M'Clintock to the acts of those whose cause he is advocating for food for sympathy instead of for his imagination. The word "hunt" would better become one whose conflicts had been with wolves and bears than with the enemies of his country.

Sir Leopold M'Clintock did not, I believe, arrive here till after the rebellion was suppressed. He had, therefore, no share in the almost superhuman exertions of his brother sailors on that occasion. I say "superhuman" because, in the then critical position of the island, it was felt by these gallant men that the safety of the white race depended on their almost ubiquity. Troops had to be conveyed to almost every port, and stores taken in or landed night and day, and all this to be done by two ships, the noble "Wolverine" and the gallant little "Onyx." Night and day they toiled without a moment's rest or a single murmur.

Sir Leopold McClintock knew nothing personally of what had occurred; I, therefore, as an eye-witness, declare his statement as regards the Maroons to be as unjust as to insinuation as it is untrue as to fact. Instead of the greater portion of 800 having been shot by the Maroons, the number did not exceed 25; of these 10 were killed at Torrington, where the Maroons were challenged by the rebels to meet them, aad where they were attacked and one of their number wounded. Five were the immediate followers of "Cameron," next in command to Paul Bogle. They were seen by a Maroon to come from Morant Bay on the evening of the massacre, and heard to boast, brandishing their arms, that they had done for all the whites on the Bay. One was shot in the vicinity of Paul Bogle's house, having on his person the Baron Ketelhodt's large signet ring, taken when the Baron's fingers were cut off, and his person otherwise brutally mutilated. Five were shot by sentence of court-martial, and the other four perhaps in the "fierce bush hunt" which occurred.

I may, perhaps, at some future period, furnish your Excellency with "rebel" evidence as to my own conduct and that of the Maroons. In the meantime, I may be allowed to observe, that during the mutiny in India British sailors were not denounced for quitting their ships and following rebels into the jungles. Nor were they called on to account for every life that was taken. It is only when the "rebel" happpens to be a "negro," and is supported by an influential party in England, in his desire to exterminate the white race, that loyalty becomes a crime, and every rebel finds a reporter and a lawyer at his elbow.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE,
Colonel-in-chief of the Maroons.

Inclosure 3 in No. 14.

Colonel Fyfe to Governor Eyre.

Extract of a Despatch from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

"Colonel Fyfe being the only officer mentioned as being employed with the Maroons, whilst divers parties of the Maroons appear to have been out in various directions out of the immediate control of Colonel Fyfe, was there any, and what control exercised over the operations of those parties; and what it was expected the nature of those operations would be, and of what nature in point of fact did those operations prove to be?"

Sir, *December* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to report on the above extract as follows:—

The rebels had sacked every house, store, and shop, within an area of 30 miles by 12, embracing the town of Bath, and extending from the confines of the parish of Port Royal to the mouth of the Plantain Garden River in St. Thomas-in-the-East. Every article coveted and of easy transport was carried off, whilst all others were destroyed, the floors of the rooms exhibiting one indiscriminate mass of books, private papers, smashed looking-glasses and glass ware, broken tables and chairs, mattress hair (for even the ticking was ripped off), and every article of household furniture. The plunder was either carried by the rebels to their houses or hidden in the bush; and as the names of the parties committing these excesses were known (for, under the expectation of acquiring the country, they had spared the women for ulterior ends), the duty of the maroons was to scour the whole of the above district, for the purpose of capturing these parties and of recovering the plunder.

It is quite true that I was the only white officer employed with the Maroons, and that, although I always accompanied the main body, I had, in carrying out the above operations, necessarily to detach parties in different directions and beyond my immediate observations; but these parties were always commanded by one of their own officers, who acted under these specific instructions, namely:—

"Never injure nor insult a woman or a child, nor kill a man who surrenders."

I refer to my report on Sir Leopold M'Clintock's aspersions as to the mode in which my orders were carried out, and I would ask whether it was not as safe to have detached parties of the above kind, which, with some slight allowance for the licence inseparable from the existence of martial law, and the feelings necessarily engendered by the atrocities committed by the rebels, would obey those instructions in all important points, as to send those parties in charge of other officers of another colour invested with discretionary powers of action.

As to my being the only white officer employed with the Maroons, I have to state that these people being black, the main link that attaches them to me is the entire confidence with which, when they are at war with those of their own colour, who would exterminate the white race, I accompany them into the deepest woods without another white man to witness against them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. G. FYFE,
Colonel-in-chief of the Maroons.

Inclosure 4 in in No. 14.

Governor Eyre to Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope.

Sir, *King's House, December* 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit an extract from a despatch which I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which are quotations from a despatch from Sir F. L. M'Clintock, dated the 8th November last, with regard to which I am called upon to afford explanations.

Having referred the extracts relating to the Maroons to Colonel Fyfe, that officer repudiates the inference conveyed in Sir F. L. M'Clintock's communication that "at least 800 were shot chiefly by the Maroons," and has informed me that the number shot by the Maroons did not, in his opinion, exceed 25.

I should be much obliged if you would allow Sir F. M'Clintock to be good enough to furnish me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, with the grounds upon which the above opinion was based, as well as the grounds of his opinion that up to the 8th November, 1,500 deaths would be, perhaps a moderate computation.

It would be desirable also to inform Her Majesty's Government whether the "arrests (spoken of as being daily made) and the prisoners sent to Morant Bay, and a large proportion of them hung," is intended to apply to rebels taken in the districts contiguous to Morant Bay, or to persons captured in districts not under martial law, and only sent to Morant Bay for trial.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 14.

Vice-Admiral Sir J. Hope to Governor Eyre.

Sir, "*Duncan*," *Kingston, December* 23, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a letter from Commodore Sir Leopold McClintock, containing the information requested in your Excellency's letter of yesterday.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HOPE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 14.

Commodore Sir L. McClintock to Sir J. Hope.

Sir, "*Aboukir*," *at Jamaica, December* 23, 1865.

IN reply to your letter of this day's date, requesting information required by his Excellency the Governor, relative to certain opinions expressed in my letter to you of the 8th ultimo, in regard to the insurrection and consequent loss of life in this Island, I have the honour to state that it was impossible to obtain any correct information, and that my opinions were founded solely upon the local press, and upon the opinions of officers recently returned from Morant Bay, &c., and, as accurately as I could gather it, upon current opinion.

2. The "Gleaner," of the 6th of November, relates that every moment brought fresh arrivals of prisoners to Morant Bay. I am not aware where they were arrested. The "Morning Journal," of the 3rd November, states that the number shot and hanged in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East up to that date as exceeding 1,050, and estimates the total loss of life would far exceed 2,000.

3. I beg to repeat that my statements were necessarily based upon current reports, and finding the newspapers unanimous, or nearly so, and seeing no contradiction, official or otherwise, I presumed that they recorded the truth as nearly as it could be arrived at at that time.

4. I regret not having explicitly stated in my letter the grounds for my opinions, instead of briefly saying "I am informed," &c.; but it appeared so obvious that the number shot by sailors, soldiers, and Maroons in the woods could only rest on current report, I felt that you would perfectly understand it to be so.

5. I am very glad to find by his Excellency's letter, on the authority of Colonel Fyfe, that I have been misled by reports, and that the actual number shot by the Maroons does not, in his opinion, exceed twenty-five.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. L. Mc CLINTOCK.

No. 15.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 15, 1866.)

(No. 346.)

Sir, *Flamstead, December* 24, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of the reply which I have received from General O'Connor to my letter to him of yesterday's date, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch No. 344* of the 23rd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* Page 26.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Major-General O'Connor to Governor Eyre.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, December* 24, 1865.

I HAD the honour to receive at 8 o'clock last night your Excellency's despatch of the 23rd December, with extracts of despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, transmitting portions of Reports of the officers engaged in suppressing the late rebellion, and requiring explanations and justification.

No time shall be lost by me in obtaining the required information ; but as Colonel Hobbs and Lieutenant Adcock of the 2nd Battalion of the 6th Royal Regiment are at Newcastle, and Captain Hole of the same corps at Port Antonio, I cannot communicate with them and receive replies for the mail closing to-day.

I know nothing of Captain Ford, St. Thomas-in-the-East Irregular Troop, nor does he belong to the forces under my command.

I hesitate not to say that Her Majesty's Government may rely on the high character of the officers, military and naval, engaged in suppressing the rebellion, and upon the assurance of your Excellency that the measures taken will prove to have been a merciful substitute for the much larger measure of punishment which must have been executed had the rebellion been allowed to gather head and extend itself.

As regards the statement conveyed in Sir Leopold McClintock's official despatch to the Admiralty, "that at least 800 were shot chiefly by the Maroons," I never heard a faint rumour to this effect, and I entertain such confidence in the experience, discretion, and humanity of Colonel Fyfe that I am convinced the Maroons under his immediate command could not have perpetrated such atrocities with impunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR.

No. 16.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 15, 1866.)

(No. 347.)

Sir, *Flamstead, December* 24, 1865.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 7th instant, No. 313,* transmitting "an Act to amend an Act passed in the present Session entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the political Constiution of this Island,'" I now beg to inclose copies of Messages which passed between myself and the House of Assembly in reference to the change that has been effected with regard to the Act 29 Vict., cap. 11.

The object of this new enactment is to vest entirely in the Queen full power to create any Constitution which to Her Majesty may seem best in place of the existing one abolished by the 1st section of the 29 Vict., cap. 11.

I have not been enabled to obtain the Attorney-General's written opinion in time to accompany the Act, but at a personal interview he informed me that the new Act fulfils the intention for which it was introduced in the most ample and complete manner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Message from Governor Eyre to the House of Assembly.

THE Governor has much pleasure in laying before the Legislature an extract from a despatch which he has received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reference to the late rebellion.

The Governor also takes this opportunity of acquainting the Legislature that so convinced are Her Majesty's Government of the paramount importance of a strong Government being at once constituted in Jamaica, that he has been confidentially informed (and which, under existing circumstances, he feels justified in communicating to the Legislature) that, although for many years the disposition and practice of the Crown has been rather to devolve on Colonial Representative Bodies the powers and responsibilities of Government, than either to keep the powers it possessed, or to assume powers and responsibilities

* *Vide* page 196, Part I.

which had not hitherto belonged to it, yet, in a case in which the Crown's deprivation of power is incompatible with the welfare and even the safety of the Colony, there would be no hesitation on the part of Her Majesty's Government to accept any amount of additional responsibility which circumstances might seem to require.

Under this expressed willingness on the part of the Crown to deviate from its ordinary policy and practice, and to undertake the responsibility of directing the affairs of Jamaica for the future, the Governor would respectfully invite the Legislature so to amend the Act recently passed to alter and amend the Constitution as would leave Her Majesty unfettered in determining the character of the future Constitution, and the administrative machinery by which the business of the country is to be conducted.

E. E.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 341.)
(Extract.) *Downing Street, November* 17, 1865.

BY the mail from the West Indies, the arrival of which did not take place until yesterday, I have received your despatch No. 251 of the 20th October, reporting the breaking out of a rebellion of the negroes in the eastern districts of Jamaica, which has involved the cruel massacre of many of the principal white and coloured persons in that part of the Island, and acquainting me with the measures which, in concert with the officers in command of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, you have taken to suppress the insurrection, and to prevent its spreading to other parts of the Island.

2. I have been greatly shocked at the barbarities which you describe; and I wish you, in the first place, to inform the inhabitants of Jamaica how deeply Her Majesty's Government deplore the losses which the Colony in general has sustained, and how sincerely they sympathize with those who have to lament family bereavements incurred under circumstances so distressing.

* * * * *

8. I will not fail to bring under the notice of the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief and the Lords of the Admiralty, the high sense you entertain of the services rendered by Major-General O'Connor and Captain De Horsey, R.N., and the other officers of the army and navy whom you mention, and of the soldiers, sailors, and marines under their orders. And it is with the greatest satisfaction that I receive the high, and, I doubt not, deserved commendation which you bestow upon the Members of the Executive Council, the Custos of Kingston, Inspector Ramsay of the Police, the volunteers, and the militia-officers who accompanied you in the "Wolverine."

9. I recognize with great satisfaction the alacrity with which the well-affected subjects of Her Majesty placed themselves at your disposal; and I shall bring under Her Majesty's special notice the loyal and gallant behaviour of the Maroons.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Address from the House of Assembly.

May it please your Excellency,

WE are ordered by the Assembly to wait on your Excellency, and to assure your Excellency of the willingness of the Assembly to give their serious attention and best consideration to the suggestions in his Excellency's Message of this morning; and, as in order to carry out this course of action, the fullest information is essential, to request that your Excellency will be pleased to lay before the Assembly copies of the extracts from the despatch of the Colonial Secretary, dated the 17th of November last, or of any other despatch, referring to the willingness of Her Majesty's Government to assume additional responsibilities in the administration of the internal affairs of this Colony.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Message from Governor Eyre to the House of Assembly.

IN acknowledging the receipt of a Message from the Assembly dated the 12th instant, the Governor regrets he is unable to afford the House any further or more definite information.

The despatch No. 341* of the 17th November, contains no reference whatever to a change of constitution, nor has the Governor any official communication on the subject.

He has received a private and confidential intimation, in general terms, to the effect embodied in his Message of the 12th, and he considered it to be of so important a character, as affecting the future interests and welfare of the Colony, and as bearing upon the action recently taken by the Legislature on the same subject, that he felt justified in at once making it known to the Legislative Bodies, in order that they might have the opportunity, if so disposed, of taking advantage of the opening which this intimation of the disposition of Her Majesty's Government offers, before it be too late.

Whilst the Governor gathers from the communication referred to, that the Queen's Government is willing to assist in any way it legitimately can in providing for the future security and good government of the Island, he feels fully assured that the Crown will not undertake the responsibility of directing the affairs of a Colony, circumstanced as Jamaica is, unless wholly unfettered as regards the form of constitution, and the nature of the administrative machinery to be established, under and by means of which those affairs are to be conducted.

E. E.

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* *Vide* page 239, Part I.

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. to Sir H. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 21.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 11, 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, and that of your colleagues in the Commission of Inquiry, copies of so much of a correspondence which has passed between Mr. George Price, Member of the Legislative Council of Jamaica, and this Department, as relates to the subject of the Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Mr. G. Price to Earl Russell.

My Lord, *Dover Street, Ryde, December* 14, 1865.

BELIEVING it to be the intention of Her Majesty's Government to cause inquiry to be made in Jamaica by a Royal Commission, into the circumstances which caused the recent outbreak in Jamaica, and knowing these causes to have been entirely of a political nature (for the remedy of which Governor Eyre has recently suggested the political remedy of the abolition of the Assembly), I take the liberty to express the hope that your Lordship will be pleased to cause my evidence to be taken in this country before that Commission shall proceed to institute such inquiry in Jamaica.

The dissensions and misfortunes in that Island are due solely to the encouragement given to a transaction known in Jamaica as the "Tramway Fraud" by Governor Eyre whilst acting as Lieutenent-Governor, and subsequently as Governor, and by the Colonial Office (if not by the Colonial Secretaries), and by the reward conferred on Governor Eyre by the Crown, having at the same time a full knowledge of the circumstances of that transaction officially communicated.

As the legally appointed agent of the objectors under the powers of the Tramway Act, and as the Custos alone authorized by law to discuss or vote on any question relating to that transaction, and as a late Member of the Government of Governor Eyre, I am the only person able or competent to give the evidence necessary to elucidate the cause of so much agitation in Jamaica.

The transaction referred to and other frauds committed at the Board of which Mr. Eyre and his advisers were the sole Commissioners, occupied the attention of the Assembly in 1862 (and caused the dissolution of the Assembly in that year), 1863, June 1864, and 1864-65.

Committees of the Assembly were appointed in four different Sessions to inquire into this fraud, and three reports have been made on the subject.

It was on this question that the late Mr. Gordon spoke most frequently and urgently in the Assembly, and in a letter of his lately published of March 1865 to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, he placed it first in the list of grievances he complained of.

It is also to this transaction that the papers moved for by Lord Dunsany, and about to be placed before the House of Lords, have reference.

Fearing, my Lord, that any application to the Colonial Office by myself will be treated with that neglect with which all my frequent endeavours to keep that Office rightly informed as to the circumstances which were tending to serious disturbances in Jamaica have been treated, I feel it useless to communicate further on the subject except with

your Lordship, whom I have the honour now respectfully to ask to be so good as to consider my request to be examined by any Commission that may be appointed for the purpose of inquiring in Jamaica, or that my evidence may be taken and forwarded to Governor Sir Henry Storks if it be any part of his duty to inquire into and report on the cause of the popular discontent in that Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PRICE,

Senior Member, Legislative Council of Jamaica.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. G. Price.

Sir, *Downing Street, December* 27, 1865.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to inform you that Earl Russell has referred to him your letter to his Lordship dated the 14th instant.

I am desired to acquaint you in answer to it, that the inquiry of the Commission is to be conducted in Jamaica, and not in this country, but that any information which you are desirous to communicate to the Commission can be sent to this office to be forwarded.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Mr. G. Price to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(Extract.) *Dover Street, Ryde, December* 29, 1865.

IN reply to your communication of the 27th instant, to the effect that "the inquiry of the Commission is to be conducted in Jamaica, and not in this country, but that any information which I am desirous to communicate to the Commission can be sent to this office to be forwarded;" I have the honour respectfully to remark that my evidence, not being on oath, and subjected to no cross examination, could carry no weight with the Commission, and might be set aside by Mr. Eyre's evidence, which will be taken only on oath; and I have also the honour to suggest, that on arriving in Jamaica, the Commissioners should exercise the power they would there have, and which is commonly exercised in Jamaica, of requiring any evidence to be taken in England, in the usual way, and to be subjected to the usual cross-examination.

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Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Mr. Forster, M.P., to Mr. G. Price.

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 10, 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, making certain suggestions as to the conduct of the Commission of Inquiry into the recent events in Jamaica. So much of your letter as relates to this subject has been communicated to the Commission through Sir H. K. Storks.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. E. FORSTER.

No. 2.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 31.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

I INCLOSE herewith a copy of a letter, addressed to Earl Russell from St. Thomas's on the 28th December, by General Lamothe, complaining of his deportation from Jamaica, of the manner in which he was treated previously to his deportation by Messrs. Ramsay and Irwin and by sailors on board Her Majesty's ship "Aboukir," and of having been deprived of his property and effects, which he requests may be restored to him.

You are aware that the question of the deportation of this and other subjects of Hayti was referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, who were of opinion that the deportation was an act the justification of which must depend upon its necessity, and cannot be supported upon any grounds of international obligation.

I request you to make inquiry into the particulars of ill-usage complained of and into the alleged seizure and retention of General Lamothe's goods and effects; and you will be pleased to report to me whether, in your opinion, the conduct of any of the civil officers concerned was needlessly harsh, or otherwise open to censure; and you will no doubt think it right to report to the military authorities at home on the allegations so far as they concern military officers; and you will state whether General Lamothe was deprived of any portion of his property, and if so, what has become of it.

I shall refer General Lamothe's communication to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for inquiry as to the conduct of the naval officers and men complained of.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure in No. 2.

General Lamothe to Earl Russell.

My Lord, *St. Thomas, 28 Décembre,* 1865.

DES ma plus tendre enfance je l'ai eue par tradition; et ma sympathie pour le peuple Anglais s'est accrue avec l'âge. Il m'est impossible d'admettre que mon admiration se reposait sur de simples illusions: je n'ai pas pu me déterminer à prendre un fait isolé pour base de conviction. Voilà comment je suis porté à faire arriver ma voix jusqu'à votre Seigneurie.

J'ai été victime d'actes excessivement arbitraires à la Jamaïque, et voici de quelle manière.

Alors que je résidais dans la ville de Kingston, j'engageai mon passage sur la goëlette "Oracle," en destination d'Inague; à cet effet, je m'embarquai le 9 Octobre dans l'après-midi.

La Jamaïque était parfaitement tranquille, et personne, dans ce moment là, n'y soupçonna la possibilité du moindre trouble. Le navire partit, et après six jours de route, louvoyant dans le passage au vent de la mer des Antilles, il éprouva un nord-est si violent que ses principaux cordages se rompirent: les étais des mâts eurent le même sort: force fut au capitaine de laisser arriver.

Lorsqu'enfin le vent tomba, nous étions au delà de l'Ile Navaze. Il fut décidé qu'on ferait la terre pour s'approvisionner et réparer les avaries causées par la tempête. C'est dans cet état de détresse que la goëlette "Oracle" entra à Port Antonio, village situé au nord de l'Ile de la Jamaïque. Nous ignorions qu'il fut aucun trouble dans le pays, et lorsque le pilote nous l'apprît, nous fîmes des objections pour entrer dans le port; mais, il ajouta qu'il n'y avait rien à appréhender, que tout était tranquille à Port Antonio, que le lieu du désordre était à environ soixante milles du village. Rassurés par le pilote, nous allâmes prendre mouillage.

Tandis que nous étions là réparer nos avaries, sans avoir la moindre communication avec la terre, nous vîmes monter à bord quinze hommes armés de pied en cap, ayant en tête un nommé Ramsay, se disant Prévost-Marshal à Port Antonio, qui s'exprima ainsi:— "All Haitians on board must follow me." Sans nous permettre de nous habiller, on nous conduisit entre deux files de soldats au Court-house. Le Capitaine Luke, que nous y trouvâmes, avait d'abord décidé que nous étions libres de continuer notre route, mais un instant après survint le Lieutenant Irwin du guard-ship "Aboukir," qui engagea de nous arrêter, vu que, dit-il, tous les Haïtiens résidant à Kingston sont prisonniers. Le Capitaine Luke revint sur sa première décision, et nous fûmes, sans aucun autre motif, conduits à la caserne, où l'on nous tînt prisonniers dans un état si dégoutant que je n'ose le révêler à votre Seigneurie.

Nous étions à peine rendus à la caserne que nous apprîmes que le dit Irwin, accompagné de Ramsay, avait pris possession de "l'Oracle," ainsi que de son chargement et s'était emparé aussi de tous les effets des passagers et les avait transférés à bord d'un gun-boat qu'il commandait alors. Certains objets à mon usage qui étaient enfermés dans mes malles, et que je reconnus en la possession de Mr. Ramsay, ne me laissèrent aucun doute sur l'intégrité du Prévost-Marshal de Port Antonio. Je continuai à subir une détention sans qu'on put m'en dire la cause.

Quand la nouvelle arriva à Kingston que j'avais été arrêté à Port Antonio, Mr. S. Laraque, Agent du Général Geffrard à Kingston, s'entendit avec les journaux que celui-ci y subventionne, et de cette connivence on fabriqua un article pour tâcher de

m'englober dans la rébellion, afin de parvenir à m'arracher la vie. Voilà l'histoire vraie de toute cette affaire de plan que votre Seigneurie a dû lire sur les journaux de Kingston ; elle n'a aucun autre fondement, et, bien certainement, de la manière qu'on envoyait en masse le monde à la mort, votre serviteur ne serait point là pour avoir l'honneur de vous parler, si de cette diffamation on avait pu trouver, non pas la preuve (car il n'en fallait pas) mais la moindre probabilité de mon rapport avec les révoltés.

Après une semaine de détention à Port Antonio, on nous embarqua sur la corvette "Wolverine," qui nous transporta à Port Royal, d'où nous fûmes transférés à bord du vaisseau "Aboukir." C'est dans ce dernier navire que j'ai eu à endurer des outrages inouïs. Sur le main deck, entre deux canons, on m'a exposé à la risée publique ! Figurez-vous, my Lord, un équipage d'environ 500 matelots lançant des épithètes offensantes et des injures à un seul homme ! Après mille menaces de me pendre, de me fouetter, l'un d'entre'eux enfin, feignant l'ivresse, s'avance à moi, disant "Old negro," il m'assène un soufflet !

Suis-je au milieu d'hommes civilisés ou parmi des sauvages ? M'écriai-je dans l'excès d'indignation, pourquoi ne pas me tuer une bonne fois ? Alors intervint le Commandant Mathew, qui fit chasser la foule des matelots en défendant la répétition de telles scènes.

Je pensais que c'était pour me juger qu'on m'avait fait venir de Port Antonio ; j'avais droit d'espérer au moins qu'on m'eut fait connaître le motif pour lequel on a interrompu mon voyage, la cause enfin de mon arrestation.

Rien de tout cela.

Le 1 Novembre, le commandant de "l'Aboukir" me notifia par ordre du Gouverneur Eyre, "que je pouvais m'adresser à mes agents ou amis par correspondance pour affréter un navire afin de me transporter ailleurs, et que (quoique je dusse rester prisonnier à bord) si j'étais encore dans l'Ile de la Jamaïque après le 14e jour de cette notification, je serais pendu. Le lendemain 2 Novembre, l'on me remit l'ordre d'expulsion du Gouverneur Eyre, motivé sur complot contre un Gouvernement ami. Donc, my Lord, le Gouverneur Eyre confesse par cet acte, qui n'est qu'une copie de sa proclamation d'expulsion contre tous les Haïtiens indistinctement, qu'il n'existe point de motif particulier pour me rechercher. Cette proclamation d'expulsion, dont d'autres que moi apprécieront la portée, a frappé depuis l'adolescent jusqu'au nonogénaire paralytique, et est en contradiction avec ses considérants : quant à moi, j'y ai obéi d'autant plus volontiers que j'avais déjà quitté la Jamaïque sans esprit de retour ; mais je crains que le Gouverneur Eyre n'ait à se reprocher une complaisance extrême, car de cette amabilité de bon voisinage, tout en servant le ressentiment d'autrui, peut surgir des conséquences imprévues qui démontreront que dans la circonstance le Représentant de Sa Majesté Britanique s'était plutôt attaché à servir une politique tout autre que celle de son Gouvernement.

Bref, en exécution de l'ordre susénoncé, un ami arrêta mon passage sur le royal mail steamer. Où sont mes effets ?

J'eus beau demander, j'eus beau prier de me remettre mes malles pour pouvoir me vêtir ; ce fut en vain. Dans un état horrible, presque nu, sans chapeau, on me transféra le 9 Novembre à bord du royal mail steamer, qui me débarqua ici, à St. Thomas.

Maintenant, my Lord, je me crois fondé à dire que, m'étant embarqué comme passager à bord d'un navire régulièrement expédié par la Douane de Kingston, lequel navire ayant éprouvé des avaries sur mer, n'avait forcément relaché à Port Antonio que pour se parer contre un péril imminent—ce qui est un droit universel—que j'ai été saisi sur mer par une force armée d'autant plus irrésistible qu'elle disait agir au nom de Sa Majesté la Reine ;—que cette force, non seulement s'empara de ma personne et de celle de mon fils, mais encore s'appropria de tous mes effets consistant en vêtements en drap, linge, argenterie, bijoux, papiers, livres, &c., &c. : cette force marine et militaire, commandée par MM. Ramsay et Irwin, nous a dévalisés enfin !

My Lord, je suis officier général, j'appartiens à une nation reconnue par l'Angleterre, je suis connu du Gouverneur Eyre : c'est sciemment qu'il m'a fait violenter et outrager dans ma dignité : les mêmes motifs qu'il a allégués pour expulser les Haïtiens lui auraient fait observer les convenances envers eux, s'il n'était pas mû par d'autres sentiments.

Il n'y a aucun précédent, ni dans ma vie privée ni dans ma carrière politique, pour étayer les rigueurs et le mépris dont j'ai été l'objet. J'ai vécu à la Jamaïque durant trois ans et demi, solitairement, paisiblement, honnêtement ; je puis, au besoin, le faire certifier par la notabilité de Kingston, qui, je suis sûr, n'a rien à me reprocher.

Ce n'est point pour crime, ce n'est point pour méfait ni forcément que j'étais allé résider à Kingston. Comme Ministre du Gouvernement Haïtien, j'ai eu le malheur de ne pas pouvoir m'accorder avec le chef sur un point politique que j'ai considéré assez grave, j'ai résigné mon siège dans l'Exécutif, pour ne pas en assumer la responsabilité devant mon

pays: voilà l'origine de l'ombrage que l'on conçut contre moi, et pour en éviter les tendances, je pris le parti de me retirer à l'étranger, uniquement pour avoir la paix. Je suis donc allé me fixer à Kingston, où j'ai, avec gratitude, mêlé ma voix à celles de tant d'autres victimes politiques qui, à justes titres, bénissent la sécurité de l'hospitalité Britannique.

Or, je doute que la condescendance par laquelle le Gouverneur Eyre a bien voulu, si gratuitement, me faire subir tant d'infâmies, obtienne l'approbation unanime de mes compatriotes; je doute encore plus, my Lord, que le Gouvernement Anglais y donne son agrément: non, la nation qui marche à la tête de la civilisation, la nation dont le libéralisme est comme un phare à la contemplation du monde, aura, tout comme les victimes, horreur du scandal que les colons de la Jamaïque viennent de commettre envers l'humanité.

C'est pénétré de cette conviction, my Lord, que j'ai, &c., &c.

(Signé) JH. LAMOTHE.

No. 3.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 33.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration the six following Acts, which have been passed for purposes connected with the recent disturbances in Jamaica.

Chap. 2. "An Act to enable the Governor to detain persons arrested during the prevalence of Martial Law" is objectionable, as it purports to give the Governor the power of detention without any specified limit of time, and without any provision for bringing the accused to trial. I shall feel it my duty to recommend that this Act should be disallowed by Her Majesty in Council.

Chap. 4. "An Act to provide for the Expenses attending the extinguishing of the Rebellion" will be left to its operation.

Chap. 5. "An Act to provide for the Forfeiture of the real and personal Estates of Persons guilty of Treason or Felony in the late Rebellion" is an Act which appears to be open to very great objection. I shall feel bound to advise Her Majesty that the Act be disallowed.

The following Acts will be left to their operation:—

Chap. 6. "An Act to revive the Act of the 23rd Vict. cap. 3, for regulating the issuing of and the Proceedings under a Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer for the Trial of certain Offences committed in the County of Cornwall, and to extend its Provisions to Offences committed in the Island generally, and for other purposes."

Chap. 8. "An Act to prevent the training of Persons to the use of Arms, and to the practice of Military Evolutions and Exercise."

Chap. 9. "An Act to prevent the administering or taking Unlawful Oaths."

I have, however, to observe on Chap. 6, that there is some appearance of unfairness in giving to the Crown only, and not to the accused, the power of requiring a special jury. I should be glad to know whether there are any peculiar circumstances which render this necessary or expedient.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 4.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 34.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

THE Act recently passed by the Legislature of Jamaica intituled "An Act to indemnify the Governor and all other officers and persons concerned in suppressing the late rebellion in this Island," has been under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

The whole subject of this indemnity is one which must evidently await the ultimate decision of Her Majesty's Government after the evidence taken by the Commission, of

which you are President, shall have been fully before them. I shall not, therefore, submit to the Queen at present any advice respecting the mode of dealing with this Act.

I take this opportunity, however, of repeating to you what is already understood by your colleagues in that Commission, and I am sure by yourself also, that in conducting your inquiry, or in obtaining any compulsory powers from the Jamaica Legislature, if shall find it necessary to do so, it will be proper to consider with much care the term Act which evidence should be required or received from persons whose proceedings this ich is intended to cover. Such persons ought not to be compelled to give evidence wh might compromise themselves, or allowed to give evidence without clearly understanding that its reception will not be considered as a condonation of any misconduct, if hereafter misconduct shall be charged against them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 5.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 37.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

I HAVE received the despatch of the 22nd ultimo,* forwarding an Act of the Jamaica Legislature to alter and amend the Constitution of this Island.

The Act will receive the careful consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 6.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 38.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

FROM the proceedings of the Legislature of Jamaica, of which a printed copy has been forwarded to me by Governor Eyre in his despatch No. 345 of the 23rd of December, I perceive that an Act has been passed and assented to by Mr. Eyre, "to provide for the trial and punishment of offences committed during martial law, and within a limited period thereafter."

This Act has not yet been officially forwarded to me, but from a perusal of its provisions in the proceedings of the Legislature, I gather that its object is to continue the operation of martial law in Jamaica, in respect to the trial of offenders, for a period of six months.

I think it necessary to apprize you, without awaiting the arrival of the Act, that I cannot anticipate that it will be in my power to advise the Queen to give her sanction to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 7.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 39.)
Sir, *Downing Street, January* 16, 1866.

I UNDERSTAND that in some instances copies were not retained of the documents forwarded to me with Governor Eyre's despatch No. 251† of the 20th October, and as some difficulty may be found in obtaining copies in the Colony, and as it is essential that all the inclosures of that despatch should be at the disposal of the Commission, I return the whole of them to you herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 23. † *Vide* page 1, Part I.

No. 8.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 40.)

Sir,

Downing Street, January 16, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch, No. 332,* of the 20th of December, inclosing a Memorial from certain Ministers of Religion, praying for the appointment of Commissioners from England to inquire into matters connected with the recent disturbances.

I request that you will inform the Memorialists that their Memorial has been received, and that before its receipt the course which it has in view had been adopted.

I am, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 3.

FURTHER PAPERS

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

RELATING TO THE

DISTURBANCES IN JAMAICA.

PART III.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
February 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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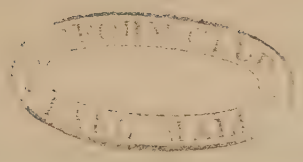

DESPATCHES FROM THE GOVERNOR.

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

Despatches from the Governor.

No. 1.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 30, 1866.)

Sir, *King's House, December 26, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 1st instant* in reply to mine of the 24th October,† suggesting that if the Legislature of Jamaica should not be found willing to devolve its powers upon a new form of Council, in which the Crown should have substantial power in directing and controlling the affairs of the Colony, the English Parliament should be applied to for the purpose of rescuing the Colony from the evils and dangers to which, under its present form of government, it has been exposed.

2. I am happy to state, as I have already reported in my despatches No. 313 of the 7th December,‡ and of the 22nd December, 1865,§ that the local Legislature has been induced to pass two enactments, under which the fullest and most ample power is vested in the Crown without the necessity of an appeal to Parliament, and Her Majesty's Government can now call into existence any constitution which may be thought best, simply by Orders in Council or Letters Patent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 2.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 30, 1866.)

(No. 348.) (Answered, No. 55, February 1, 1866, page 19.)

Sir, *King's House, December 26, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 345 of the 23rd ultimo,‖ notifying that Her Majesty's Government, having replaced the troops withdrawn from the garrison of Nova Scotia for service in Jamaica, those troops might now remain here for the present, and the troops borrowed from Barbados and Nassau be returned.

My despatch No. 293 of the 20th November¶ would have informed you that the 17th regiment, so promptly sent to our assistance from Halifax, was not even landed, but returned at once in a man-of-war to Nova Scotia, as the emergency to meet which it was sent was over.

My subsequent despatch No. 322 of the 8th instant,** would inform you of the fact that the troops from Barbadoes and Nassau were still here, and of the recommendations made both by myself and the Major-General, for maintaining an increased strength of garrison here for the present.

I shall await your further instructions before taking any steps in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* See Part I, page 250.
† Ibid., page 50.
‡ Ibid., page 196.
§ See Part II, page 23.
‖ See Part I, page 242.
¶ See Part I, page 174.
** Ibid., page 219.

No. 3.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 349.)

Sir, *King's House, December* 28, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of an Address which has been presented to me by the Custos, ministers of religion, magistrates, and others of the parish of Trelawney, and copy of my reply thereto.

The former document fully confirms the opinion I have so often expressed of the imminent peril which threatened the entire Colony upon the occurrence of the late rebellion in the eastern districts

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Address of the Custos, &c., of the Parish of Trelawney.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica, &c. &c.

The humble Address of the Magistracy, Clergy, and other inhabitants of the parish of Trelawney.

May it please your Excellency,—

WE the undersigned Magistrates, Clergymen, and other inhabitants of the parish of Trelawney, beg leave most respectfully and dutifully to represent to your Excellency the profound sorrow, with which we received the intelligence of the late most wicked and unprovoked rebellion against lawfully constituted authority, of a large body of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, of the deplorable loss of life and property and suspension of business thereby occasioned, and of the necessity for the most severe measures for the suppression of the insurrection.

We also desire to express to your Excellency, that we have been deeply impressed with a sense of the magnitude of the danger to which the lives and the property of Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects throughout the entire colony were, in consequence of this wicked rebellion, exposed; and that we deprecate the baneful results which must, we fear, necessarily follow, both in the management of the internal affairs of the island for many years to come, and which must injuriously affect its reputation abroad.

Sincerely sympathising with your Excellency in regard to the heavy responsibilities which were so suddenly and unexpectedly thrown upon your Excellency, and which we have the greatest pleasure in stating your Excellency discharged with no small wisdom, energy, promptitude and decision of purpose, from no selfish consideration but under a deep sense, we feel assured, of your Excellency's duty to our beloved Sovereign, to the loyal inhabitants of this island and all its best interests, we beg to tender to your Excellency an expression of our heartfelt gratitude for the great services rendered to the whole colony by your Excellency at this most critical conjuncture in its history, and we beg further to assure your Excellency of our own loyal devotion to our beloved Sovereign and the laws of this island, and of our readiness to place our services at the command of your Excellency in whatever measures may be necessary for the preservation of life and property, and the peace and welfare of the island at large.

We have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT NUNES, *Custos.*
(And by 163 others.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Reply of Governor Eyre.

Mr. Custos, Reverend Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

IT would at all times afford me sincere pleasure to receive such gratifying assurance of the good opinion and approval of the numerous and highly respectable and influential gentlemen of Trelawney, who have signed the Address presented to me by your respected Custos; but it comes doubly welcome to me at a time when the acts to which you refer, undertaken from a deep sense of duty to my Sovereign and to the colonists of this island,

and with a full and anxious sense of the painful responsibility of my position, have been so maliciously misrepresented, and so unjustly maligned by a section of the English press, and by parties at home who have no sympathies with their fellow-countrymen suffering under the atrocious barbarities inflicted by savages, because those savages have a black skin,—though they do not hesitate to call the just retribution which overtook the ruthless rebels of St. Thomas-in-the-East by the names of "murder" and "massacre."

It was trying enough, gentlemen, to have to encounter the harassing and anxious duty of putting down the rebellion, and taking steps to preserve peace and tranquillity in the other districts of the colony; but it is very hard and most unexpected to have to rebut accusations founded upon exaggeration, misrepresentation, and untruth.

I shall have much pleasure in transmitting your Address to Her Majesty's Government as a proof that in the island, where the actual circumstances ought to be best known, and where the magnitude and imminency of the danger to the entire colony can best be appreciated, the foul aspersions disseminated by a portion of the English press are unjust and undeserved.

I thank you, gentlemen, most gratefully for your loyal Address, and for the hearty expression of your willingness to co-operate with me in any measures necessary for the protection of life and property, and the peace and welfare of the island at large. On my part I would assure you that I shall ever be ready to do my duty faithfully, and will never shrink from assuming any amount of responsibility which the public safety requires me to undertake.

No. 4.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 1.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 348 of the 1st ultimo,* making inquiries in reference to the publication of Dr. Underhill's letter in this Colony.

2. In reply, I have to state that I did not direct, authorize, or in any way sanction the publication of that letter, nor do I know in what manner, or through whom, it was made public.

3. Dr. Underhill having addressed to you a letter containing very serious statements relative to the state of Jamaica, its taxation, the administration of justice and the rights or privileges enjoyed by the coloured population, you necessarily referred that communication to me for my report.

4. In order that I might be enabled to make a full, complete, and impartial report, and to support my statements by the opinions and experience of others, it became necessary to forward Dr. Underhill's communication inclosed in a circular letter to the Custodes, to the Ministers of Religion of all denominations (including the Baptist, to which Dr. Underhill belongs), and to several other persons, as from their position, character, and opportunities of forming just opinions, were most likely to furnish me with accurate and useful information.

5. The voluminous evidence thus collected, and my analysis thereof, were duly forwarded from time to time in my various despatches on the subject.

6. Considering the large number of persons to whom Dr. Underhill's letter thus became necessarily made known, and the majority of whom were in no way under the control of the Government, it is not surprising that the letter soon found its way into the public prints. Dr. Underhill asserts, indeed, in a letter addressed to the "Times," dated 20th November: "My letter was published by Governor Eyre in the Island Gazette," and that "for its publication and the effects consequent upon it, I must decline the responsibility which Governor Eyre wishes to fasten upon me. The responsibility is his, not mine."

7. This is simply an untruth. I have already stated that no such publication ever took place by my direction, or with my knowledge or sanction, nor did it ever appear in the "Island Gazette." The publication unavoidably resulted from Dr. Underhill's having written such a letter officially to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the steps which it became necessary to take in order to test the accuracy of his allegations or otherwise.

8. The circumstances under which it became the cause of political agitation, were, first, the desire of the Baptists to back up, as far as they could, the statements of Dr. Underhill, who, from being Secretary, might be considered as representing the Baptist

* See Part I, page 243.

Associations in England, and this desire too was enhanced and stimulated, because it soon became evident that the public press, many persons of position and influence in the Colony, and even some of the Baptists themselves, impugned the veracity of the assertions contained in Dr. Underhill's letter.

9. Public meetings were got up in many parishes, mostly through the agency of Baptist ministers or others acting, or professing to act, in connexion with them, and Baptist ministers in many instances took a prominent part at such meetings, addressing the mob, and joining in resolutions adopting entirely and vouching for the correctness of Dr. Underhill's allegations; whilst by many speeches at some of these meetings the Government authorities, the custodes, the magistracy, the planters, and others, were denounced in the most unmeasured terms. I have already in previous despatches pointed out occasions in which Baptist ministers have taken part in those meetings, and the evil results likely to flow therefrom.

Secondly. It must be borne in mind that one of the great objects for which the Baptists, in common with other Dissenting bodies, are striving, is the abolition of any State Church; and it suited their views and purposes to expatiate on the text put forward by Dr. Underhill that the people are unjustly taxed.

Thirdly. It must be remembered that the black people are ignorant and excitable, and that they are easily misled. No wonder, therefore, that when they found that a person of position and influence in England boldly asserted that the people here were starving and naked, and that this was in a great degree due to over taxation or unjust taxation, whilst their crimes were excused as arising from the same causes, that they were refused just tribunals, and were denied political rights, and that their ministers and teachers in the Colony re-echoed the statements and maintained the correctness of the assertions thus put forward; no wonder that they found it convenient to join in the cry, and refused to allow any one to be heard at the meetings who expressed sentiments of an opposite kind; no wonder that, when thus stirred up into the belief of imaginary wrongs and grievances, they began to think how they could redress or revenge them.

Fourthly. The opportunity was too good a one to be neglected by all the discontented political agitators whose trade was to create dissension, and to stir up animosities against the governing authorities.

10. In another despatch I shall submit to you the seditious and rebellious tendency of the speeches used at some of these Underhill meetings, and I think you will then feel little surprise that rebellion has been superinduced, or that I ascribe to Dr. Underhill's letter, and the agitation stirred up in connexion with it, much of the disaffection and disloyalty which have been exhibited in so many parishes, and which culminated in rebellion in the eastern parishes, and threatened to produce a similar result in many others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Governor's Secretary's Office, January 2, 1866.

UPON examination of the "Jamaica Gazette by authority," I find that Dr. Underhill's letter of the 5th January, 1865, to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell was not published in that paper, nor was I ever authorized in any way to make it public.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
Governor's Secretary.

No. 5.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M,P.—(Received January 30, 1866.)

(No. 2.) (Answered, No. 53, February 1, 1866, page 18.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 1, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 357 of the 1st ultimo,* approving of my having proclaimed an amnesty, and of the termination of martial law on the 13th November last.

2. You also express the confidence of Her Majesty's Government that nothing but the most urgent and manifest danger to the community will induce me to have recourse to martial law.

* See Part I, page 249.

3. I would respectfully bring to your notice, in proof that I am, and have ever been, most unwilling to resort to so extreme a measure unless under the most imminent and pressing emergency, the facts that I declined to proclaim martial law over the city of Kingston when urgently requested to do so by the Executive Committee and by the Custos and Justices of Kingston, many of whom were Members of the Legislature of the Colony (as reported in my despatch No. 251 of the 20th October*), and that I again declined to proclaim martial law over the western parishes of the Colony when requested to do so by the Major-General commanding Her Majesty's troops in this Colony, as reported in my despatch No. 264 of the 3rd November last.†

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 6.

Governor-General Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 3.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 3, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to hand you a copy of an Address presented to me by the inhabitants of Manchester very numerously signed.

I also transmit copy of my reply thereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Mr. Hollingsworth to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, *Brumalia, December* 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour and great pleasure of forwarding to you, by request of the inhabitants of the parish of Manchester, the accompanying Address to his Excellency the Governor, and beg you will do me the favour of presenting the same in the most acceptable manner, and to express my regret that I am unable to present it in person.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN R. HOLLINGSWORTH,
Custos of Manchester.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Address from the Inhabitants of the Parish of Manchester.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica.

WE, the undersigned magistrates, vestrymen, clergy, freeholders, and other inhabitants of the parish of Manchester, beg most respectfully to convey through your Excellency the expression of our loyal feelings to our beloved Sovereign the Queen and her Government.

2. We offer to your Excellency our sincere thanks for the prompt and energetic manner in which you were enabled to subdue the late diabolical rebellion.

3. The causes which led to former acts of insubordination and rebellion are matters of history, but the motives which prompted the present rebellion are difficult to comprehend.

4. The peasantry of the island labour, as we believe, under no grievance, and as your Excellency has lately observed, are less taxed, live more easily and cheaply, and are less under an obligation to work for their subsistence, than any other peasantry in the world. If they are not better off, it is attributable to their own indolence, improvidence, and vice.

5. We congratulate ourselves that your Excellency displayed the determination and decision which enabled you to cope with the late rebellion, and though with few effective

* See Part I, page 1. † Ibid., page 78.

means at your disposal, to crush and overcome it. Whatever troubles threaten the future, we earnestly hope that with efficient military and volunteer forces, and such other appliances as may be at your disposal, the peace and security of the colony may be permanently maintained.

6. It is to be deplored that in an island where equal rights and privileges are enjoyed there should even be one parish found were disloyalty and sedition could be disseminated, and if this parish be exempt from so unhappy a state of things, we have much to thank the various ministers of religion for the instructions the peasantry have received from them for the last thirty years, combined with the precautions adopted by the local authorities and the salutary effects of the restraining influences your Excellency brought to bear in crushing the late rebellion.

7. We, nevertheless, feel it our duty to watch, lest the introduction from without of worthless and designing characters should mislead and corrupt the loyalty of our own people.

8. That a strong government is desired for the island we entertain no doubt, and we fully agree with your Excellency that the existing form of constitution should be abolished and one substituted better adapted to its present state and requirements.

9. In conclusion, permit us to say to yourself, Mrs. Eyre, and all the members of your family, that we shall ever pray for your health, happiness, and prosperity, and that you may be spared long to rule over the destinies of this beautiful island, and on your retirement therefrom that our most gracious Sovereign may see fit to bestow on you some mark of her approbation, which you so richly merit.

(Signed) JOHN R. HOLLINGSWORTH, *Custos of Manchester.*
WM. FORBES, *Rector of Manchester.*
JOS. STEWART, *J.P.*
(And by 117 others.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Reply to Address from Custos, &c., of Manchester.

King's House, Spanish Town, January 2, 1866.

Mr. Custos, Reverend Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

I THANK you sincerely for your loyal and kind address, expressing your satisfaction at the prompt and effectual manner in which, with my limited means, the late serious rebellion was put down, and I am glad to learn that the steps taken for that purpose, added to the precautionary measures adopted since, have had a lutary effect in your own as well as in other districts.

I earnestly trust that the exertions of the ministers of religion, and the measures of a Government which under the change made in the Constitution will now be a united and strong one, may henceforward lead the people to habits of greater industry, prudence, and morality, and thus by improving their social position render them more prosperous, contented and loyal.

It is very gratifying to me to receive such a hearty expression of your grateful appreciation of my personal exertions in endeavouring to restore tranquillity to the country and provide for its future security.

Pray accept my best thanks for this proof of your good opinion, as well as for your friendly good wishes towards myself and family.

No. 7.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 4.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 3, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter received from General Dulce, the Governor of the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 7.

General Dulce to Governor Eyre.

Excellent Sir,

THE Consul of Her Catholic Majesty in Kingston has transmitted to me the courteous words with which your Excellency has acknowledged the sending of the vessels of war to that island immediately after I had the news of the insurrection of the negroes in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The Commander of the corvette "Santa Lucia" has also informed me of the benevolent reception which he had from your Excellency and the other authorities of the island from his arrival on the 21st October last, till the time of his departure on the 28th of the same.

Respecting the assistance tendered to your Excellency, and which you have no necessity to make use of, owing to the forces of Her Britannic Majesty received by your Excellency, I did nothing more than act according to the sentiments of friendship and good alliance which subsist between the two nations.

On my part I give thanks to your Excellency for the assistance rendered to the corvette "Santa Lucia," on account of the damage she sustained during the voyage from Santiago de Cuba to Port Royal, for your courteous words in thanking myself and the other authorities of this Island for our behaviour, and also for the attention paid to the officers of our navy, all of which I have reported to my august Sovereign.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) DOM°. DULCE.

No. 8.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 8.) (Answered No. 52, February 1, 1866, page 18.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 8, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 374 of the 16th ultimo,* notifying to me the determination of Her Majesty's Government to institute in the Colony a full and independent inquiry into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the insurrection in Jamaica, and the measures taken in the course of their suppression; also that in order to carry out this object, Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to undertake temporarily the duties of Governor and Commander-in-Chief, as well as those of President of the Commission of Inquiry.

2. Sir H. Storks having arrived late on Saturday the 6th instant, has necessarily been precluded from assuming the administration until to-day (Monday), but I have now made all necessary arrangements to hand over the Government to him, and for his being duly sworn into office with all the customary formalities about 1 P.M.

3. I shall transfer to Sir H. Storks all the documents which were being prepared in reply to your despatches relative to the rebellion, and I shall be happy to afford him any information or assistance in my power to facilitate his administration.

4. In giving up to another a Government which I have had the honour of administering for four years, under circumstances of great difficulty and trial, I would respectfully request you will be pleased to convey to Her Most Gracious Majesty my humble assurance that in the discharge of the onerous and responsible duties which have devolved upon me, I have ever been actuated by the single desire to do my duty faithfully to my Sovereign, to uphold the honour of the Crown, and to insure, as far as practicable, the safety and welfare of the Colony and people intrusted to my care.

I would also venture to add my confident belief that the inquiry now being instituted will show, that when on the occurrence of the recent atrocious insurrection it became my painful duty to adopt the most prompt and severe measures to repress and prevent the spread of an outbreak which threatened the safety of the entire Colony, those steps were just and necessary under the circumstances, and that had I hesitated to adopt them and accept the personal responsibility and risk which they entailed, I should have been unworthy of the high position I occupied, and of the trust reposed on me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

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* See Part 1, page 254.

No. 9.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 9.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 8, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 373 of the 16th December,* notifying that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury decline to advance any money from the Commissariat chest as a temporary loan to this Colony.

The only object in asking this assistance was to meet expenses occasioned by the emergency of the rebellion, and only until the Colonial Government could make arrangements for effecting a loan.

I am happy to say that there has been no necessity to borrow from the Commissariat chest, as the Executive has obtained money in the Colony upon loan, under the Act passed during the recent Session, transmitted in my despatch No. 297 of the 23rd November, 1865.†

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 10.

Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(*Received January* 30, 1866.)

(No. 10.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 8, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a Memorial, signed by certain ministers of religion, addressed to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, praying for a Commission, to be appointed from England, to investigate into matters connected with the late rebellion in the Eastern districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Address.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE, whose names are hereunto appended, Evangelical Missionaries and Ministers labouring in the parish of St. Ann, in your Majesty's Island of Jamaica, beg leave to approach your Majesty with an unfeigned expression of our attachment to your Majesty's person and Throne, and of our gratitude for the blessings which, in common with our fellow-subjects, we enjoy under your Majesty's benignant reign.

We deeply lament the lawless and ferocious outbreak which, as your Majesty must have been grieved to learn, took place in the Eastern District of this Island, in the month of October last, and we readily acquiesce in the righteous condemnation and punishment of all who were wickedly concerned in it. Your Majesty will, however, permit us to remark, that we have been exceedingly pained by the rumoured cruel and barbarous proceedings of some, at least, of those who were engaged in the suppression of the riot, and especially by the terrible destruction of life and property which, as it is asserted, has been perpetrated on the sad occasion.

We know not how far these reports are worthy of credence, but, in order that the truth may be discovered, and that, for the satisfaction of the public mind and safety of the public interests, the causes and consequences of the outbreak may be truly and accurately ascertained, we now venture to implore that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to direct a full and impartial investigation, by a Special Commission from England, to be made into the whole matter, and also into the reasons for the allegation that there is scarcely a district or a parish in the Island where disloyalty, sedition, and murderous intentions are not widely disseminated, and, in many instances, openly expressed, and that a seditious and disloyal spirit pervades the entire Island.

We most respectfully prefer this request to your Majesty, because we have no hope of the desired information being otherwise procured, and because we feel we should be

* See Part I, page 254. † Ibid., page 176.

wanting in duty to your Majesty, to ourselves, and to our fellow-countrymen, as well as to the religious bodies in England, which we represent, and other philanthropic friends of the emancipated negroes in this and other portions of your Majesty's dominions, were we not humbly but earnestly to supplicate for an authoritative inquiry into an event which is unprecedented in the history of the Colony, which very seriously affects the Island at large, and from which we are persuaded, if your Majesty shall grant our petition, most important and salutary lessons may be learned by all classes of the inhabitants.

Fervently praying that He by whom kings reign and princes decree justice may long preserve your Majesty in health and happiness, to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire, over which your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which of late years it has been so highly favoured, we remain your Majesty's faithful and loving subjects.

(Signed) JOHN CLARK, *Baptist Missionary.*
JOS. W. ROWBOTHAM, *Wesleyan Missionary.*
JAMES GORDON BENNETT, *Baptist Missionary.*
JAMES MILNE, *London Missionary Society.*
BENJ. MILLARD, *Baptist Missionary.*

No. 11.

Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.—(Received January 30, 1866.)

(No. 1.) (Answered No. 56, February 1, 1866, page 19.)

Sir, *King's House, January* 8, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that I arrived in Jamaica on Saturday last, the 6th instant. I disembarked at once, and had an interview with Governor Eyre at Kingston on Sunday morning. It was arranged between us that I should proceed to Spanish Town this morning, and then assume the duties of Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica.

I was sworn in at 1 o'clock this day with the usual ceremonial.

2. I have the honour to inclose copies of the Proclamations I issued on the occasion.

3. I have also issued a Proclamation calling the Legislature together for the purpose of obtaining those statutory powers which the Royal Commission will require to enable it to proceed with the inquiry confided to it.

I have fixed the 17th instant for the meeting of the Legislative Council and Assembly, —the earliest period at which the members could be collected.

4. The Attorney-General has received instructions to prepare the necessary Act, and I trust that it will pass through the Assembly without opposition.

5. I am happy to be able to report that tranquillity prevails in the island, and nothing at present indicates any probable disturbance or further outrage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Proclamations.

(No. 1.)

Jamaica, ss.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, and of Jamaica, Supreme Lady, Defender of the Faith.

To all to whom these presents may come, Greeting.

Whereas, by Letters Patent, bearing date the Fifteenth day of December, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-five, and in the Twenty-ninth year of our reign, we were pleased to appoint our trusty and well-beloved Sir Henry Knight Storks to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this our island and the territories thereon depending: We do, therefore, and in pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh years of Our reign, entitled "An Act to determine the time at which Letters Patent

shall take effect in the Colonies," hereby proclaim, signify, and make known the making of the Letters Patent aforesaid.

Witness his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the same Most Honourable Order, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies, and Commander of Her Majesty's troops serving within the same, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the territories depending thereon, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of Our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same, and Commander of Her Majesty's troops serving within the same. At Saint Jago de la Vega, this Eighth day of January, Annoque Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-six, and in the Twenty-ninth Year of Our Reign.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

By his Excellency's command,
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Island Secretary.*

(No. 2.)

Jamaica, ss.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, and of Jamaica, Lady, Defender of the Faith, &c.

Whereas, by Her Majesty's Instructions, issued or given with and referred to by Her Majesty's Commission, of date the fifteenth day of December, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-five, constituting and appointing me to be Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's said Island of Jamaica, and the Territories thereon depending, it is declared to be Her Majesty's pleasure, and I am thereby authorized to reappoint by an Instrument under the Broad Seal of Her Majesty's said Island of Jamaica, the Members of the Privy Council of Our said Island: Now Know Ye that We do hereby reappoint and reconstitute the following to be Members of Our Privy Council of this Our Island of Jamaica, that is to say, the Chief Justice and the Right Reverend the Bishop of Kingston, respectively, for the time being, the Honourable John Salmon, the Honourable Henry Westmorland, the Honourable William Hosack, and the Honourable Robert Hamilton, the Members for the time being of the Executive Committee: the Honourable Alexander Heslop, the Attorney-General for the time being, but no longer than they shall retain their respective places as Members of the Executive Committee, or as Attorney-General, the Honourable Hinton East, the Honourable Louis Fullerton McKinnon, the Honourable William Gardner Freeman, the Honourable Charles Royes, the Honourable George Lyon Phillips, the Honourable Hugh Williams Austin, and the Honourable Edward Jordon, C.B. And by these presents do renominate and reappoint each and every of them the aforesaid persons to be Members of Our said Privy Council accordingly during Our will and pleasure: Provided always that, if any person shall have been a Member of Our said Council before becoming a Member of the said Executive Committee or Attorney-General, he shall not be held, on ceasing hereafter to be a Member of such Committee or Attorney-General, to have vacated his seat in Our said Council, but shall have and retain his place and precedence therein as if he had not been a Member of such Executive Committee or Attorney-General. And for that end We have caused this Our appointment to be placed under the Broad Seal of Our said Island.

Witness his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the same Most Honourable Order, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Malta and its dependencies, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the territories depending thereon, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of Our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same. At Saint Jago de la Vega, this Eighth day of January, Annoque Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty-six, and in the Twenty-ninth year of Our reign.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

By his Excellency's command,
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Island Secretary.*

(No. 3.)

By the Queen.

A Proclamation.

Jamaica, ss.

WHEREAS we have thought fit to appoint our trusty and well-beloved Sir Henry Knight Storks to be our Captain-General and Governor-in-chief of our Island of Jamaica and other the Territories thereon depending in America, and to the end that there may be no delay or failure of justice by the cesser or other determination of the offices and places of any of Our Officers and Ministers within this Our Island, or any unnecessary disputes hereafter concerning the same, and for the public good and advantage of all Our subjects in Our said Island, We have thought fit, by and with the consent of Our Privy Council of Our said Island, hereby to publish and declare that it is Our Royal Will and Pleasure that all persons whomsoever within Our said Island of Jamaica who held or enjoyed any office, place of trust or authority, either military or civil, under Us in this Our Island of Jamaica at the time of the publication of the said Sir Henry Knight Storks' Commission, shall and do hold themselves continued and possessed of their and every of their places, trusts, and authorities which they and every of them had held or enjoyed at the time of the publication of the said Sir Henry Knight Storks' Commission, and shall and may lawfully use and exercise the same until Our Royal Pleasure therein be further known.

Witness his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the same Most Honourable Order, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon, Governor and Commander-in-chief of Our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of Our said Island of Jamaica and Vice-Admiral of the same, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same. At Saint Jago de la Vega, this eighth day of January, Annoque Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in the Twenty-ninth year of our Reign.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

By his Excellency's command,
(Signed) EEWARD JORDON, *Island Secretary.*

(No. 4.)

By the Queen.

A Proclamation.

Jamaica, ss.

WHEREAS the Legislative Council and Assembly of this Our Island of Jamaica stand prorogued to Tuesday, the thirtieth day of January instant: and whereas for divers weighty causes and considerations Us thereunto moving, We have thought fit that the said Legislative Council and Assembly of Our said Island of Jamaica should be called to meet at an earlier period for the despatch of business: We do therefore issue this Our Royal Proclamation, signifying Our Royal will and pleasure therein; and Our said Legislative Council and Assembly of Jamaica are hereby called to meet at the town of Saint Jago de la Vega, on Wednesday, the seventeenth day of January instant, for the despatch of business.

Witness his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the same Most Honourable Order, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same, Captain-General and Governor-in-chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon, Governor and Commander-in-chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of

Jamaica and Vice-Admiral of the same, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same. At Saint Jago de la Vega, this ninth day of January, Annoque Domini One thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in the Twenty-ninth year of Our reign.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

God save the Queen.

By his Excellency's command,

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, *Island Secretary.*

DESPATCHES FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 45.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 29, 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you the copy of a letter from Mr. Vinen, complaining of his arrest in Jamaica during the late disturbances.

I also annex a copy of the answer which has been returned by my desire to Mr. Vinen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Mr. Vinen to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Sir, 6, *Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, January* 22, 1866.

I BEG respectfully to lay before you some particulars respecting my arrest in Jamaica which occurred at the time of the late disturbance there, from which I suffered considerable hardships and pecuniary loss.

I was arrested on the 21st of October last, in Kingston (where martial law did not exist) by three policemen, without any warrant or any reason being assigned for such a proceeding. I was thrust into a common cell, and detained a prisoner until the 9th of November (receiving only prison allowance during that time).

From the time of my arrest until the present moment not the semblance of a charge has been brought against me; neither have I been informed the cause of my arrest.

It was known to the inhabitants generally, that neither directly nor indirectly did I connect myself with the public affairs of the country. My arrest consequently became a matter of general surprise. The day after my arrest my house was searched by the police, and my letters (which related only to family and private business) were taken away and read. About three or four days after this I was examined by the Police Magistrate; after which he stated that he saw no reason why I should be detained, and that had he the power he would release me at once.

During the time of my imprisonment my health suffered materially from a debilitating fever. Nor are these things the only ones of which I have to complain. The result of my arrest has been the entire ruin of my dental practice in Jamaica. On being released, my only alternative was to leave the Colony.

From the fact that no charge was preferred against me, and nothing, either in my conduct or correspondence, which showed in the most remote way the slightest reason for my apprehension, I feel it is but due to me that I should ask why I was so long detained a prisoner when these facts became known?

Thus to abridge the liberty and to destroy the only means of support of an unoffending British subject, without the slightest pretext, I feel to be a great and serious injustice; and it is but due that I should receive an adequate compensation for the injury I have sustained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. A. B. VINEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Mr. Forster, M.P., to Mr. Vinen.

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 29, 1866.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, and to acquaint you that a copy of it will be referred to Governor Sir Henry Storks as President of the Commission appointed to inquire into the recent events in Jamaica.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. E. FORSTER.

No. 2.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 46.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 29, 1866.

I HAVE had under my consideration "An Act to authorize the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases of larceny and other offences," and "An Act to amend the Act to authorize the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases of larceny and other offences," passed in the months of February and November 1865 respectively, the latter of which was passed to amend the Act of February 1865, as directed by my despatch of the 1st of June last, No. 213.*

I am fully alive to the necessity of securing the inhabitants of Jamaica from that habitual plunder which is represented as prevailing to the discouragement of honest industry. But the recent events which have happened in Jamaica, and the circumstance that the investigation consequent on those events is in progress, render me unwilling to recommend at the present moment that Her Majesty should authorize the introduction of this mode of punishment.

I shall gladly receive from you any observations or suggestions respecting the prevalence of larceny in Jamaica and the mode of repressing it. But I shall at present refrain from submitting to Her Majesty any advice on the subject of these two laws, which will accordingly remain in abeyance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 3.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 47.)

Sir, *Downing Street, January* 29, 1866.

IN my despatch No. 213* of the 1st of June last I expressed my opinion that an Act (No. 4499) intituled "An Act to empower Justices of the Peace to apprentice persons who shall be respectively under the age of sixteen, convicted of petty larceny," was open to objections of a very serious nature which I proceeded to point out, in the anticipation that they would be amended by the Legislature. I regret that this anticipation has been disappointed; and I think that a provision, open under any circumstances to great abuse, cannot in the present very critical state of the Island be allowed to remain any longer in force.

I have therefore thought it necessary to submit to Her Majesty my recommendation that this Act should be disallowed by Order in Council, and I shall before long transmit to you the order of disallowance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* *Vide* Papers presented on the Affairs of Jamaica, February 1866, page 23.

No. 4.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 50.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, and that of the other Commissioners appointed to inquire into the recent occurrences in Jamaica, the copy of a letter from Mr. George Price on the subject of a document signed by certain persons in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and forwarded to him in September last.

I also annex a Petition to the Queen from inhabitants of St. Thomas-in-the-East, which was transmitted to me at the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Mr. G. Price to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

Sir, *Ryde, January* 23, 1866.

IN September last I received from certain persons in St. Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica, a document signed by several persons, and purporting to set forth certain grievances, and asking me to solicit your consideration of them. Believing it to be useless to do so, and not knowing anything whatever of the authors of the document, I gave no reply to and destroyed it.

The name of "Harris" was, I think, the first on the list, and is the only one I can remember, Seeing that a person of that name has been arrested and imprisoned, and may yet be tried on some charge, probably of treason and rebellion, I think it right to mention this circumstance as showing that, to within two months of the outbreak in Jamaica, this person, and others who signed that paper, appear to have been seeking redress constitutionally, and respecting the Queen's authority.

I think the outside address was in the handwriting of the late Mr. Gordon, and that he could only have ascertained it from Mr. F. R. Lynch, in Spanish Town, who may perhaps remember the circumstance, and be able to facilitate an inquiry as to what the object of the meeting was at which the resolutions were agreed to, and as to the persons who signed that document, which, I think, must have been prepared early in August, or perhaps in July.

It has occurred to me that some of the persons concerned in the late outbreak in Jamaica may have signed this document.

I therefore have the honour to ask you to be so good as to forward this statement to the Governor of Jamaica, if you should consider that it may throw any light on the intentions or acts of any concerned in that outbreak.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PRICE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Address.

Saint Thomas-in-the-East, September 5, 1865.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful subjects, the freeholders of Saint Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica, having been informed that your Majesty has been pleased to investigate in the state of this island by some informations have been laid before the Throne, upon which investigation the planters complain that the black people are lazy, and will not work, unto which we most humbly beg to implore your Majesty's attention to our humble communication.

The planters give us thirty chains for our day's task, which we are unable to finish. We must state that when we were slaves we never had such heavy work ; and after having finished those number of chains, with the expectation at the end of the week to obtain the amount of 6*s.*, we generally gets 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* for the whole week's pay, which can't purchase us one day's food. Can this support our family? The island has been ruin

consequently of the advantage that is taken of us by the managers of the estates. Another subject which we most pitifully begs to implore your Majesty's attention. Whenever we have a case which may be taken before the planter magistrates they gives us no satisfaction whatever, but combines with each other and takes away our rights. We most humbly beseech your Majesty that it may please your Majesty to appoint a stipendiary magistrate to sit at every court-day, as may enable us to obtain satisfaction.

We have also to state that consequently the island has been abolished, all the sugar estates, coffee mountains, breeding and grazing farms, that were in cultivation in former days, have been thrown up, which has actually brought a famine upon the lands.

There are many young persons that were from respectable connexions have suffered very great adversities by not having anything to do, whereas if all those properties were in cultivation they could have had something to do. We prays that it may please your Majesty's Grace to send the Americans to cultivate those thrown-up properties, as may enable us to get something to do.

All we ask is, that your Majesty may be pleased to consider over the state of this island, and render the poor some assistance.

And that your Majesty's life may be long spared, and that the blessings of those ready to perish may rest on you.

This is the sincere wish of your most humble Petitioners.

(Signed) ANDREW ROSS.
(And 39 others.)

[Printed verbatim.]

No. 5.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 52.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 8* of the 8th January.

I request that you will inform Mr. Eyre that I fully appreciate the readiness he has evinced to facilitate your Administration of the Government, and that I shall hasten to convey to the Queen the assurance he desires should be submitted to Her Majesty of the motives by which he has been actuated in the discharge of the onerous and responsible duties of his office.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 6.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 53.)

Slr, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 2 of the 1st of January.†

I request that you will inform Mr. Eyre that the facts to which he adverts, as showing his unwillingness to have recourse to the proclamation of martial law, have not been overlooked by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* Page 7. † Page 4.

No. 7.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 54.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 338 of the 21st December,* inclosing a report from the Inspector of Police, showing that drilling has been going on amongst the negroes in the parish of St. Dorothy's.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 8.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 55.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 348 of the 26th of December,† respecting the detention in Jamaica of the troops from Barbados and Nassau.

You are already in possession of ample instructions in regard to military arrangements.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 9.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 56.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 1 of the 8th of January,‡ reporting your arrival in Jamaica, and your assumption of the Government of the Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 10.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 57.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 331 of the 16th December,§ inclosing copy of a petition to the Legislative Council of Jamaica, against the Act to alter and amend the constitution of the Island, and also inclosing an expression of dissent from the Act entered upon the Minutes of the Council by one of its members, the Honourable L. McKinnon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 11.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 59.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatches Nos. 344 and 346 of the 23rd and 24th December,‖ relative to the explanations required by me of passages in the reports made by officers employed in the suppression of the disturbances in Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* See Part II, page 14. † Page 1. ‡ Page 9.
§ See Part II, page 1. ‖ Ibid., pages 26 and 32.

No. 12.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 60.)

Sir *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 333 of the 20th December,* inclosing a copy of his private letter to Major-General O'Connor, referred to in Mr. Eyre's despatch to me No. 260 of the 31st of October.†

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 13.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 61.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 339 of the 22nd December,‡ inclosing copies of correspondence with Major-General O'Connor relative to military arrangements.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 14.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieutenant-General Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 62.)

Sir, *Downing Street, February* 1, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Governor Eyre's despatch No. 341 of the 22nd of December,§ inclosing a copy of the Address with which he closed the session of the Legislature of Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

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* See Part II, page 4. † See Part I, page 62. ‡ See Part II, page 15. § Ibid., page 21.

APPENDIX.

Extracts from Proceedings of the Legislature.

(Bill as originally introduced.)

A Bill to Amend an Act passed in the present Session, entitled "An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

WHEREAS an Act was passed by the Legislature of this Island, during this present Session, entitled "An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island;" and whereas, it is desirable that the same should be amended: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same.

First. The second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth, thirtieth, thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third, thirty-fourth, thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth sections of the said Act, and the forms appended to the said Act, numbered one, two, three and four respectively, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Second. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, or by an order, or orders, in Council, to create and constitute, and, from time to time, to alter and amend such form of Legislature for this Island, as shall to Her Majesty seem meet and best, in the place of the Legislature abolished by the first section of the said recited Act, twenty-ninth Victoria, chapter eleven; and also, to alter the Administrative machinery, now existing under the designation of an Executive Committee, by virtue of the seventeenth Victoria, chapter twenty-nine, and in lieu thereof, to create, and, from time to time, to vary whatever Administrative machinery to Her Majesty shall seem meet and best; and such Letters Patent, and each such order in Council, or any instructions under Her Majesty's Royal signet and sign manual, in furtherance thereof, shall have the same force and effect, and be as valid in law, as if the same had been enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of Jamaica, or by the Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland.

Third. This Act shall not come into operation, until the same shall have received Her Majesty's Royal assent, and such assent shall have been notified in the "London Gazette."

(Act as passed by the Legislature.)

29 Vict., Cap. 24.

An Act to Amend an Act passed in the present Session, entitled "An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

WHEREAS an Act was passed by the Legislature of this Island, during this present Session, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island;" and whereas it is desirable that the same should be amended: Be it therefore Enacted Preamble.

by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby Enacted by the authority of the same,—

29th Vict., cap. 11, repealed except first clause thereof.

First. That all clauses in the said Act, except the first clause, are hereby repealed, and all the forms annexed to the said Act are also hereby repealed.

The Queen to create a new Government for this island, &c.

Second. In place of the Legislature, abolished by the first section of the recited Act, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to create and constitute a Government for this Island, in such form, and with such powers as to Her Majesty may best seem fitting, and from time to time to alter or amend such Government.

Act not to operate till Royal assent notified and proclaimed.

Third. This Act shall not come into operation until the same shall have received Her Majesty's royal assent, and such assent shall have been notified in the "London Gazette," and proclaimed by the Governor in this Island.

Passed the Assembly, this 20th day of December, 1865.

(Signed) CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, *Speaker.*

Passed the Legislative Council, this 21st day of December, 1865.

SAML. RENNALLS, *Clerk of the Legislative Council.*

I consent, this 22nd day of December, 1865.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Extracts from Proceedings of Jamaica Legislature, relating to the Bill to amend the Act "To Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island." (See Part II, pp. 34, 35.)

Messages between the Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief and the Honourable House of Assembly.

First Reading of the Bill.

Bill to amend the Act to "Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island," presented.

Mr. Westmorland, one of the members of the Executive Committee, offered to the House a Bill to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled "an Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island," and moved that the same be read the first time.

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put,

The House divided:

The ayes went forth:

Ayes, 17:—Mr. Espeut, Mr. Gibb, Mr. Lindo, Mr. J. H. D. Swire, Mr. Kinkead, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Stewart, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. Roger Swire, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. Whitelocke, Mr. Westmorland, Mr. Hosack, and Mr. Osborn.

Noes, 6:—Mr. Alberga, Mr. Harris, Mr. Charles Levy, Mr. Lewis, Mr. S. C. Burke, and Mr. W. Bourke.

It was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read first time.

Then the said Bill was read the first time.

Ordered,

That the said Bill be read the second time on Tuesday next.

Second Reading and Committal of the Bill, December 19, 1865.

Division on Amendment.

Bill to amend the Act to "Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island," read second time.

The Bill to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island," was, according to order, read the second time.

Resolved,

That the said Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House immediately.

Committed.

Then the House resolved itself into such Committee.

Mr. Speaker left the chair.

Mr. Osborn took the chair of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Reported with amendments.

Mr. Osborn, from the Committee, reported that they had gone through the Bill, and had made several amendments thereto, which he read in his place, and delivered in at

the table with the said Bill; where, the first amendment being read in the following words:—

"Whereas it is necessary to the peace and reconciliation of Her Majesty's subjects of Jamaica, that the present form of government should be changed and transferred exclusively to British rule: And whereas the Act which passed the Legislature on the 7th day of December instant, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,' does not carry out the object aforesaid;"

A motion was made to disagree to the said amendment, reported from the Committee, and to insert in lieu the following words:— Motion to disagree to amendment, resolved in the affirmative.

"Whereas an Act was passed by the Legislature of this Island during the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island:' And whereas it is desirable that the same should be amended."

A debate thereon arising: and the question being put,

The House divided:

The ayes went forth:

Ayes, 15:—Mr. Espeut, Mr. Gibb, Mr. J. H. D. Swire, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Mais, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Lindo, Mr. Bravo, Mr. Williams, Mr. Malabre, Mr. I. Levy, Mr. Coke, Mr. Westmorland, Mr. Roger Swire, and Mr. Osborn.

Noes, 13:—Mr. Henderson, Mr. Whitelocke, Mr. Harris, Mr. Charles Levy, Mr. Sanguinetti, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Alberga, Mr. S. C. Burke, Mr. R. W. Smith, Mr. Kinkead, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. W. Bourke.

It was resolved in the affirmative, and the said Bill, as reported from the Committee, was amended accordingly.

Then the remaining amendments being again read, the same were severally agreed unto by the House. Remaining amendments again read and agreed to.

Ordered,

That the said Bill, with the amendments, be engrossed, and that the title be, "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present Session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island.'" Bill, with amendments, to be engrossed.

Third Reading, December 20, 1865.

The engrossed Bill to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island," was, according to order, read the third time. Engrossed Bill to Amend the Act to "Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

A motion was made that the said Bill do pass.

A debate thereon arising, and the question being put, Motion that Bill pass, resolved in the affirmative.

It was resolved in the affirmative, and the said Bill was passed accordingly.

Ordered,

That Mr. Westmorland and Mr. Gibb be a committee to carry the above engrossed Bill to the Legislative Council, and to desire their concurrence thereto; who, returning, reported the delivery thereof. Committee to carry it to Legislative Council.

Legislative Council.—First Reading, December 20, 1865.

The Honourable Mr. Westmorland and another, from the Assembly, with the following Bill: Bill from the Assembly.

An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

To which said Bill they desired the concurrence of the Board.

The said Bill was read a first time. Read first time and second reading ordered.

Ordered,

That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

Second Reading and Committee, December 21, 1865.

The Bill from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,'" was, according to order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole Board. Bill from Assembly, to amend Act to alter and amend Political Constitution of this Island, read a second time, and committed.

Reported with amendments agreed to.

The Board accordingly resolved itself into a Committee of the whole Board upon the said Bill; and, after some time spent therein, the Board was resumed, and the Honou ra bl Mr. Mc Kinnon, from the Committee, reported they had gone through the Bill and had made three amendments thereto; which said amendments, being again read, were severally agreed unto by the Board,

Ordered,

To be engrossed.

That the said amendments be engrossed.

Sent with Amendments to the Assembly, December 21, 1865.

Clerk laid before the Board engrossed amendments to the Political Constitution Bill.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council laid before the Board, the engrossed amendments to the Bill entitled, "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled, 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,'" which were read.

Ordered,

Message to the Assembly.

That the Clerk of the Legislative Council do go down to the Assembly with the following message:—

"Mr. Speaker,

"I am commanded by the Legislative Council to acquaint the Assembly, that they agree to the Bill, entitled 'An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,' with the following amendments:—

Leave out the first section, and insert in lieu thereof, the following words:—

"That all clauses in the said Act, except the first clause, are hereby repealed; and all the forms annexed to the said Act are also hereby repealed."

Leave out the second section, and insert in lieu thereof, the following words:—

"In place of the Legislature abolished by the first section of the recited Act, it shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to create and constitute a Government for this Island in such form, and with such powers, as to Her Majesty may best seem fitting, and from time to time to alter or amend such Government."

At the end of the third section, after the word "Gazette," insert the words "and proclaimed by the Governor in this Island."

"To which said amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the Assembly."

Amendments agreed to. Passed, December 21, 1865.

Message from the Assembly.

The Honourable Mr. Westmorland and another, from the Assembly, with the following Message:—

"May it please your Honours,

"We are ordered by the Assembly to acquaint you that they agree to the amendments proposed by your Honours, in your message of this day, to the Bill, entitled 'An Act to amend an Act, passed in the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island,'" and have amended their Bill accordingly."

Ordered,

To lie on the table.

That the above message do lie on the table.

Bill from the Assembly to amend Act to alter and amend Political Constitution of this Island, read third time and passed.

The Bill from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island," was read a third time, as amended.

The question was put whether the same do pass.

Resolved,

That the said Bill do pass.

Ordered,

Clerk to sign same.

That the Clerk of the Legislative Council do sign the same.

Assented to, December 22, 1865.

House summoned.

His Excellency the Governor came into Legislative Council and desired the Usher of the Black Rod to go down to the Assembly, and in Her Majesty's name, command their attendance in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Mr. Speaker and the House attending, his Excellency the Governor was pleased to give his assent to the following Bill. Bills assented to.

* * * * * * *

"An Act to amend an Act passed in the present session, entitled 'An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island.'"

Extract from the Proceedings of the Assembly, referred to in Governor Eyre's Letter to Major-General O'Connor. (Part I, page 224.)

Referring to his Excellency the Governor's speech at the opening of this session, wherein his Excellency the Governor has stated that "a mighty danger threatens the land, and in order to avert it, and prevent, so far as human wisdom can, any future recurrence of a similar state of things," and that the Legislature "must examine boldly, deeply, and unflinchingly into the causes which have led to this danger":

Resolved,

That his Excellency the Governor be requested to lay before this House all such information as may enable the House to deal with this question in the manner indicated in his Excellency's speech, and as may not be inconsistent with the interest of the public service.

Message from the Captain-General and Governor-in-chief to the Honourable House of Assembly.

E. Eyre, Governor.

"The Governor acknowledges the receipt of a resolution of the Honourable House of Assembly, expressing a desire to be put in possession of all the information upon which the Executive arrived at the opinion that 'a mighty danger threatens the land.'

"With every desire to place the fullest information before the House, it is manifestly impossible to produce all the grounds upon which the opinion above quoted, was based. It consisted partly of oral information from gentlemen or others connected with the different districts, partly of information contained in private letters to the Governor, and in letters to members of the Executive Committee, or to other gentlemen of position, which were shown to the Governor; partly of representations from custodes or magistrates, of the alarming state of their districts, of seditious and threatening language being openly indulged in, of threatening letters, of night meetings of the peasantry, of unsanctioned drilling being carried on in various places, of statements of the insecure and unprotected state of the parishes, of applications for troops, for men-of-war, for arms, for extra police or constables, for formation of volunteer corps, &c., &c., the whole tending to show that sedition and rebellious intention were wide-spread through the land, and that in most of the parishes the residents who were best able to judge of the temper and feeling of the peasantry around them were in a state of great apprehension and alarm.

"Even in Kingston, well protected as it is by a large military force and by the volunteers, so convinced were the magistrates that a state of things existed which could not be met by the ordinary civil arrangements of the country, that they especially requested the Governor to return from the seat of the rebellion, in the eastern parishes, in order to place Kingston also under martial law.

"But the best test perhaps of the accuracy of the information upon which the Government founded its opinion, is to be found in the opinions of the members of the two branches of the Legislature, in their replies to the opening address.

"The gentlemen comprising the Legislative Council, coming from various parts of the Island, and with the best means of obtaining full and accurate information, absolutely endorsed the views expressed in the Governor's opening address, that 'there is scarcely a district throughout the Island where disloyalty, sedition, and murderous intentions are not widely disseminated and openly expressed;' whilst the members of the Honourable House itself, many of them also coming from the country districts, and possessing similar means of knowing what is going on, to that enjoyed by the members of the Legislative Council, express their opinion that nothing but a strong government can prevent this Island from lapsing into a second Hayti.

"The grand jurors of Hanover and St. James have also expressed their opinion that the spirit of disaffection is widely spread through the land.

"With this general statement of the grounds upon which the opinion of the Executive was founded, and of the concurrent testimony by which it is borne out, the Governor appends such documentary evidence as can be got ready, illustrative of the condition of

various parishes, and of the state of feeling existing amongst the black population: but these few papers bear a small proportion to the multitudinous communications which have come under the Governor's notice, bearing upon the same subjects."

E. E.

Message from his Excellency the Governor to the Honourable House of Assembly.

E. Eyre, Governor.

"The Governor transmits to the Honourable House of Assembly an extract from a communication from Colonel Whitfield, commanding the western division of the Jamaica forces.

"This important statement from an officer of Colonel Whitfield's high rank and acknowledged ability and experience will afford the Legislature a further proof that the Governor had good grounds for asserting, in his opening address, that 'a mighty danger threatens the land.'

"It must be remembered, too, that Colonel Whitfield's statement is written some time after he assumed the command of the western districts, and after having personally visited all the districts where military outposts are established.

"The Governor is anxious not to create unnecessary alarm; but it is his duty to express his opinion that the Legislature and the country ought not to be lulled into a fancied security, which the information reaching the Government does not afford grounds for entertaining at present."

E. E.

1. *Resolved,*

That it be recommended to the House to send the following message to his Excellency the Governor:—

"May it please your Excellency,

"We are ordered by the House to wait on your Excellency, and to acquaint you that the House, having taken into consideration your Excellency's message of this day, containing extracts from a letter addressed to your Excellency, by Colonel Whitfield, of Her Majesty's second West India Regiment, requests that your Excellency will be pleased to take the necessary steps for landing and distributing throughout this island the officers and soldiers of Her Majesty's 17th Regiment, now on board Her Majesty's ship 'Aboukir,' in such districts as your Excellency may think advisable."

Message from the Captain-General and Governor-in-chief to the Honourable House of Assembly.

E. Eyre, Governor.

"In reply to the Message dated yesterday, from the Honourable House of Assembly, the Governor begs to inform the House, that in placing before it further and more recent information, confirmatory of the views which he entertained at the commencement of the Session, of the unsatisfactory state of feeling prevailing in many of the country parishes, he only intended to convey corroborative evidence of what he had long regarded as an undeniable fact, and to record his opinion that it would be unsafe and impolitic to trust to a seeming state of quiet and security, which, in reality, did not exist, apart from watchful vigilance and military protection.

"The Governor has no reason to suppose, from Colonel Whitfield's letter, that any further or more pressing emergency exists now than he believed to exist a fortnight ago; but, on the contrary, he considers the Island to be in a safer state now than it was then, by the more complete arrangements made with regard to the establishment of military posts, and by a large accession of naval forces to co-operate with the civil and military authorities.

"With every desire to meet the wishes of the Assembly, the Governor is bound to state that there are circumstances connected with the sending Her Majesty's 17th regiment to Jamaica, which make it desirable, for the good of the Queen's service, that that regiment should return to the North American command with as little delay as possible.

"The Governor fully hopes and believes that the forces now in Jamaica will be found equal to cope with and promptly to put down any further outbreak, should such unfortunately take place.

"There is now at Newcastle a considerable number of white troops, kept in reserve to be available for any emergency; whilst the very large naval force now concentrated at and around Jamaica could, at any moment, supply and convey five hundred or one thousand marines and sailors to any required locality.

"The Governor can only assure the House further, that the unceasing and watchful attention of the Government shall be continually directed to all parts of the country; and that no time will be lost in taking all practicable steps which circumstances may render necessary to guard against any rising of the negro population, or to crush it out promptly, should it take place."

E. E.

Act referred to in Mr. Cardwell's Despatch to Governor Eyre. (Part II, page 44.)

Clerk lays on the ta engrossed amendme to Bill to provide fo the trial and punish ment of offences con mitted during marti law, &c.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council laid before the Board the engrossed amendments to the Bill from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to Provide for the Trial and Punishment of Offences Committed during Martial Law, and for Other Purposes," which were read.

Ordered,

Message to the Asse bly.

That the Clerk of the Legislative Council do go down to the Assembly with the following message:—

"Mr. Speaker,

"I am commanded by the Legislative Council to acquaint the Assembly that they agree to the Bill, entitled 'An Act to Provide for the Trial and Punishment of Offences Committed during Martial Law, and for Other Purposes,' with the following amendments:—

"After the word 'first,' leave out the whole of the Bill, and the proviso, and insert in lieu thereof the following section and provisoes:—

"'That from and after the passing of this Act, all offences, whether acts or language of a seditious or rebellious character, or tending to excite sedition or rebellion, committed during the existence of martial law, and within six months thereafter, whether in districts in which martial law was proclaimed, or in any other districts of this island, shall be tried and determined by a military tribunal, in the same manner and form, and with the same pains and penalties, during such period as aforesaid, as if martial law existed in the said districts: Provided, Militia or Volunteer officers may be members of such tribunal. And provided also, That nothing in this Act contained shall be construed to authorize the military authorities aforesaid to arrest persons charged with, or suspected of any of the offences aforesaid; but that all proceedings upon such charges or suspicion, until commitment to a district court martial for trial, shall be had and taken according to the ordinary law heretofore in force.'

"At the end of the title to the Bill, leave out the words 'for other purposes,' and insert in lieu thereof, the words 'within a limited period thereafter.'

"To which said amendments, the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the Assembly."

Bill from the Assen to provide for the t and punishment of offences committed during martial law, read third time, as amended, and pass

The Bill from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to Provide for the Trial and Punishment of Offences Committed during Martial Law, and within a Limited Period thereafter," was read a third time, as amended.

The question was put whether the same do pass.

Resolved,

That the said Bill do pass.

Ordered,

That the Clerk of the Legislative Council do sign the same.

Clerk to sign the s

Bills assented to.

Mr. Speaker and the House attending, his Excellency the Governor was pleased to give his assent to the following Bills:—

"An Act to Provide for the Trial and Punishment of Offences Committed during Martial Law, and within a Limited Period thereafter."

"An Act to Alter and Amend the Political Constitution of this Island."

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

Index to Papers relative to the Disturbances in Jamaica, presented to Parliament in February 1866.

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REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

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RELATIVE TO

THE AFFAIRS OF JAMAICA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

February 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1866.

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FOREIGN OFFICE
PALL MALL

PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

THE AFFAIRS OF JAMAICA.

No. 1.

COPY of a LETTER from E. B. UNDERHILL, Esq., LL.D., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

DEAR SIR, 33, Moorgate Street, E.C., January 5, 1865.

I VENTURE to ask your kind consideration to a few observations on the present condition of the Island of Jamaica.

For several months past every mail has brought letters informing me of the continually increasing distress of the coloured population. As a sufficient illustration, I quote the following brief passage from one of them:

"Crime has fearfully increased. The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is considerably more than double the average, and nearly all for one crime—larceny. Summonses for petty debts disclose an amount of pecuniary difficulty which has never before been experienced; and applications for parochial and private relief prove that multitudes are suffering from want, little removed from starvation."

The immediate cause of this distress would seem to be the drought of the last two years; but in fact this has only given intensity to suffering previously existing. All accounts, both public and private, concur in affirming the alarming increase of crime, chiefly of larceny and petty theft. This arises from the extreme poverty of the people. That this is its true origin is made evident by the ragged and even naked condition of vast numbers of them, so contrary to the taste for dress they usually exhibit. They cannot purchase clothing, partly from its greatly increased cost, which is unduly enhanced by the duty (said to be 38 per cent. by the Hon. Mr. Whitlock) which it now pays, and partly from the want of employment, and the consequent absence of wages.

The people then are starving, and the causes of this are not far to seek. No doubt the taxation of the Island is too heavy for its present resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet competition in the markets of the world. No doubt much of the sugar land of the Island is worn out, or can only be made productive by an outlay which would destroy all hope of profitable return. No doubt, too, a large part of the Island is uncultivated, and might be made to support a vastly greater population than is now existing upon it.

But the simple fact is that there is not sufficient employment for the people; there is neither work for them, nor the capital to employ them. The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done. Sugar cultivation on the estates does not absorb more than 30,000 of the people; and every other species of cultivation (apart from provision growing) cannot give employment to more than another 30,000. But the agricultural population of the Island is over 400,000, so that there are at least 340,000 whose livelihood depends on employment other than that devoted to the staple cultivation of the island. Of these 340,000 certainly not less than 130,000 are adults, and capable of labour. For subsistence they must be entirely dependant on the provisions grown on their own little freeholds, a portion of which is sold to those who find employment on the estates; or perhaps in a very slight degree on such produce as they are able to raise for exportation. But those who grow produce for exportation are very few, and they meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute a means of support which is as advantageous to the Island as to themselves. If their provisions fail, as has been the case from drought, they must steal or starve. And this is their present condition.

The same result follows in this country when employment ceases or wages fail. The great decrease of coin in circulation in Jamaica is a further proof that less money is spent in wages, through the decline of employment. Were Jamaica prosperous, silver would flow into it or its equivalent in English manufactures, instead of the exportation of silver, which now regularly takes place. And if, as stated in the Governor's speech, the

JAMAICA.

Customs Revenue in the year gone by has been equal to former years, this has arisen, not from an increase in the quantities imported, but from the increased value of the imports, the duty being levied at an ad valorem charge of 12½ per cent. on articles such as cotton goods, which have within the last year or two, greatly risen in price.

I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature; of their abortive immigration bills; of their unjust taxation of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes. Could the people find remunerative employment, these evils would in time be remedied from their growing strength and intelligence. The worst evil consequent on the proceedings of the Legislature is the distrust awakened in the minds of capitalists, and the avoidance of Jamaica, with its manifold advantages, by all who possess the means to benefit it by their expenditure. Unless means can be found to encourage the outlay of capital in Jamaica, in the growth of those numerous products which can be profitably exported, so that employment can be given to its starving people, I see no other result than the entire failure of the Island, and the destruction of the hopes that the Legislature and people of Great Britain have cherished with regard to the well-being of its emancipated population.

With your kind permission I will venture to make two or three suggestions, which, if carried out, may assist to avert so painful a result.

1. A searching inquiry into the Legislation of the Island since emancipation, its taxation, its economical and material condition, would go far to bring to light the causes of the existing evils, and by convincing the ruling class of the mistakes of the past, lead to their removal. Such an inquiry seems also due to this country, that it may be seen whether the emancipated peasantry have gained those advantages which were sought to be secured to them by their enfranchisement.

2. The Governor might be instructed to encourage by his personal approval and urgent recommendation the growth of exportable produce by the people, on the very numerous freeholds they possess. This might be done by the formation of associations for shipping their produce in considerable quantities; by equalizing duties on the produce of the people and that of the planting interests; by instructing the native growers of produce in the best methods of cultivation, and pointing out the articles which would find a ready sale in the markets of the world; by opening channels for direct transmission of produce, without the intervention of agents, by whose extortions and frauds the people now frequently suffer, and are greatly discouraged. The cultivation of sugar by the peasantry should, in my judgment, be discouraged. At the best, with all the scientific appliances the planters can bring to it, both of capital and machinery, sugar manufacturing is a hazardous thing. Much more must it become so in the hands of the people, with their rude mills and imperfect methods. But the minor products of the Island, such as spices, tobacco, farinaceous foods, coffee and cotton, are quite within their reach, and always fetch a fair and remunerative price, where not burdened by extravagant charges and local taxation.

3. With just laws and light taxation, capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, and employ themselves in the production of the more important staples, such as sugar, coffee, and cotton. Thus the people would be employed, and the present starvation rate of wages be improved.

In conclusion I have to apologize for troubling you with this communication; but since my visit to the Island in 1859–60 I have felt the greatest interest in its prosperity, and deeply grieve over the sufferings of its coloured population. It is more than time that the unwisdom (to use the gentlest term) that has governed Jamaica since emancipation, should be brought to an end,—a course of action which, while it incalculably aggravates the misery arising from natural, and therefore unavoidable causes, renders certain the ultimate ruin of every class, planter and peasant, European and Creole.

Should you, dear sir, desire such information as it may be in my power to furnish, or to see me on the matter, I shall be most happy, either to forward whatever facts I may possess, or wait upon you at any time that you may appoint.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) EDW. B. UNDERHILL.

P.S.—I append an extract from the speech of the Honourable A. Whitlock, in the House of Assembly, with respect to the condition of the people.

"He (Mr. Whitlock) would make an assertion which could not be gainsaid by his successor, that taxation could not be extended; not one farthing more could be imposed on the people, who were suffering peculiar hardship from the increased value of wearing apparel, which was now taxed beyond all bounds; actually they were paying 38

per cent. now, when 12½ per cent. was before considered an outrageous ad valorem duty. Cotton goods, including osnaburgh and all the wearing apparel of the labouring classes had increased to 200 per cent. in value; what was bought at 4*d.* a yard before was selling for a shilling per yard, therefore the people are now paying 1½*d.* of duty in every yard of cloth instead of ½*d.*, which has been justly described as a heavy impost. The consequence is that a disgusting state of nudity exhibited itself in some parts of the country. Hardly a boy under 10 years of age wore a frock, and adults, from the ragged state of their garments, exhibited those parts of the body where covering was especially wanted. The lower classes hitherto exhibited a proneness for dress. And he could not believe such a change would have come over them, but for his belief in their destitution arising out of a reduction in their wages at a time every article of apparel was tripled in value. . . . . This year's decrease in imports foreshadowed what was coming. Sugar was down again to 11*l.* per hogshead, coffee was falling, pimento was valueless, logwood scarcely worth cutting, and moreover a sad diminution effected in our chief staple exports from a deficiency of rain." JAMAICA.

No. 2. No. 2.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 150.)

Sir, Downing Street, January 27, 1865.

I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter which I have received from Dr. Underhill, secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population. 5 Jan. 1865. Page 1.

I shall be glad to receive from you a report on the contents of this letter.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 3. No. 3.

Copy of a LETTER from Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to Edward B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D.

Sir, Downing Street, January 27, 1865.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant,* on the present condition of Jamaica and its coloured population. * Page 1.

I am desired to express to you Mr. Cardwell's thanks for this communication, and to inform you that he has forwarded it to the Governor of Jamaica, with instructions to report upon its contents.

I have, &c.

Edward B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 4. No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 20.)

Sir, King's House, February 8, 1865.
(Received, February 28, 1865.)

I have the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of "An Act to repeal "and amend so much of the Twenty-second Victoria, Chapter Eighteen, as imposes a "stamp duty of ten shillings on the right to vote in certain cases," together with the Island Secretary's summary thereof, and the Attorney General's report thereon.

2. This Act is for the purpose of relieving persons entitled to vote at elections from the payment of a fee of ten shillings stamp duty in certain cases.

JAMAICA.

Its effect will be to enlarge the number of voters, though the qualifications are not altered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

ANNO REGNI VICESIMO OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Jamaica, ss. No. 4490.

CAP. II.

An Act to repeal and amend so much of the Twenty-second Victoria, Chapter Eighteen, as imposes a Stamp Duty of Ten Shillings on the Right to vote in certain cases.

Preamble.

Whereas it is necessary to amend the present election law in certain respects: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,

22 Vict. cap. 18. amended.

First.—That the Act of the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, shall be amended in the respects following:

6*l.* freeholder, paying 20*s.* taxes per annum, relieved of the stamp duty on claim to vote.

First. Each freeholder whose land is of the actual annual value of six pounds, and who shall, on or before the thirtieth day of September preceding the year for which he claims to vote, pay taxes to the extent of twenty shillings per annum, shall be relieved from the payment of the stamp duty of ten shillings, imposed by the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, on his claim to vote:

Taxpayer paying 30*s.* taxes per annum, and upwards, also relieved of stamp duty on claim to vote.

Second. Each taxpayer, to the extent of thirty shillings and upwards, who shall have paid his taxes on or before the thirtieth day of September in each year, shall be entitled, *ipso facto*, to be registered as a voter, and to exercise the right of voting at any election in the parish in which such taxes shall have been paid for the then succeeding year, without preferring or tendering any claim to vote under the provisions of the said twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen; and each collector of dues shall, on the first day of October in each year, or within five days thereafter, make out an alphabetical list, in duplicate, of all persons who shall have paid into his office taxes to the extent aforesaid, up to the preceding thirtieth day of September; and he shall also, on the said first day of October, or within five days thereafter, subscribe and swear to the truth of such lists, and shall deliver one of such lists, so subscribed and sworn to as aforesaid, to the clerk of the vestry of the parish, who shall thereupon transfer to and insert in the register of voters of the parish, the name of every such taxpayer, and the other of such lists shall be affixed to the outer door of the court house of each parish.

Collector of dues to make out list of tax payers,

and to deliver same to clerk of vestry,

who shall register same in list of voters.

Claim to vote may be preferred by attorney or agent, &c.

Second.—That the claim to vote may be preferred by attorney or agent, in the absence from the Island of the voter, but the right of vote shall only be exercised in person, and the forms prescribed by the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, may be adapted to such case.

The right to vote to be exercised only in the parish in which the qualification ists.

Third.—That the claim to be registered and the right to vote shall be exercised in the parish only where the land or premises in which the right claimed is situate, or where the other personal qualification of rent, tenancy, salary, taxes, or deposits of money are respectively existing, arising, payable, or invested.

vms in hedule C. of rmer Act shall be adapted to his Act.

Fourth.—That the forms given in Schedule C. of the said Act, for claims to vote on freehold, and payment of taxes, shall be adopted [adapted] for the purposes of this Act, in respect of any exemption from the stamp of ten shillings on the claim to vote on freehold.

So much of 22 Vict. cap 18, as is repugnant to this Act, repealed, &c.

Fifth.—That so much of the twenty-second Victoria, chapter eighteen, as is repugnant to the provisions of this Act, is hereby repealed, without prejudice to any right now existing under the said Act.

Passed the Assembly, this 19th day of December 1864.
CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 21st day of December 1864.
SAMUEL RENNALLS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 22nd day of December 1864.
E. EYRE.

Vera copia extr.
HUGH W. AUSTIN, Island Secretary.

[Confirmed by Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, No. 167, March 14, 1865.]

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT.

28 Victoria, chapter 2.

Under 22 Vict. c. 18, a general registration was required of all (six) classes of voters, and each claim for registry was to bear a ten shillings stamp.

The present Act exempts freeholders owning land of six pounds annual value, and paying twenty shillings a year of taxes from this stamp duty, and taxpayers of thirty shillings are relieved both from the necessity of making claim before the registrar and from the stamp duty.

In the present case, too, a small loss of revenue will result.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP,
Attorney General.

2nd February 1865.

No. 5. No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 29.)

King's House, February 8, 1865.
(Received, February 28, 1865.)
(Answered, No. 162, March 9, 1865, below.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that the Session of the Legislature is drawing to a close, and that I hope in about ten days more to be able to relieve the members from further attendance upon their legislative duties.

2. As might have been expected after the occurrences of last year, and considering the elements of which a Jamaica Legislature is composed, there has not been a very cordial or useful co-operation to promote the public good; but all essential measures for carrying on the Government or securing the revenue have been obtained, besides some others relating to special subjects.

3. There was scarcely time between the termination of the Session in June 1864, after all the previous ferment, for that ferment to settle down by the commencement of the new Session early in November, and more especially as the return of Mr. Price to the Colony, and the course of action he has pursued since his return, have necessarily revived and renewed feelings which were subsiding prior to his arrival.

4. I trust, however, that after the present Session is over, as there will be a long interval before the next, much of the still existing agitation will have subsided, and that a more promising state of affairs may arise for the Session to be commenced in November of this year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 6. No. 6.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 162.)

Downing Street, March 9, 1865.

SIR,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 29,* of 8th February, reporting the progress of the Legislative Session of Jamaica. * Above 6.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

No. 7. No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 37.)

King's House, February 21, 1865.
(Received, March 16, 1865.)
(Answered, No. 176, March 25, 1865, page 6.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the business before the Legislature having all been disposed of, I this day prorogued the Legislative Assembly. A copy of my address is herewith transmitted. Address

JAMAICA.

2. Forty-five Acts have been passed; amongst them are some very useful and important ones, including a renewal of our principal revenue laws, which were about to expire at the end of March next.

3. On the whole, I think the Session may be regarded as having been as satisfactory and as successful as could well have been expected.

4. It will be my duty to transmit to you the various Acts as soon as they are printed and reported upon by the Attorney-General.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 7.

ADDRESS.

No. 8.

Speech:

"Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
"Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I am happy to be able to relieve you from further attendance upon your legislative duties, and I thank you for the care and deliberation with which you have considered the various measures submitted to you.

"Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I thank you for the supplies you have granted to Her Majesty. It will be my duty, in conjunction with my Constitutional Advisers, to administer economically, and in the spirit which the grants have been made, the funds placed at our disposal.

"Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
"Mr. Speaker, and Honourable Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"The Acts which have been passed during the present Session will, I hope, have a beneficial influence in many points of importance affecting the welfare and prosperity of the Colony.

Encl. in No. 7. "The appointment of an inspector of revenue, and the enactment of a law for the better collection of the rum duty, will, I trust, soon lead to an increase of revenue, whilst the reduction of the staff in the Receiver-General's office, and the placing that department upon a better footing, will both prevent the new establishment from creating any additional charge upon the public funds, and, at the same time, put the chief revenue department in a more satisfactory state.

"The amendment of the law relating to prisons, and the enactment of a law to punish certain offences by the infliction of corporal punishment, will, I believe, have a most salutary effect in repressing crime, and in enabling the executive to make the best arrangements practicable for disposing of convicted offenders.

"The Acts relating to vaccination, to the establishment of volunteers, to the repairs of the Kingston streets, to the construction of a slip dock, and to the establishment of a leper's home, are all measures of importance, and well calculated to promote the public interests and welfare in the matters to which they severally relate.

"I do now in Her Majesty's name prorogue this General Assembly to Tuesday, the 4th April next, and it is hereby prorogued accordingly."

No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 176.)

SIR, Downing Street, March 25, 1865.

* Page 5. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 37,* of 21st February, enclosing a copy of the address with which you have prorogued the General Assembly of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 40.)

Jamaica, King's House, March 2, 1865.

SIR,

(Received, March 31, 1865.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 150,* of the 27th January last, enclosing a communication from the secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population, and requesting me to report upon that document.

* Page 3.

2. Being anxious to obtain the fullest and most authentic information I can, I have called upon the custodes of the different parishes, and upon the heads of the different religious denominations, to favour me with their views on the various allegations contained in Dr. Underhill's letter. When received I shall be in a position to report fully upon the subject.

3. In the meantime I may state that I believe Dr. Underhill's letter contains a very exaggerated view of the state of the Colony and of the labouring classes.

Undoubtedly there is a considerable amount of distress amongst all classes, owing to the low prices of produce, and to the dry seasons which have prevailed during the last two years; but Jamaica is so extensive, and so varied in its physical features and climate, that the whole Colony is very rarely indeed subjected to one general drought, and during the years referred to the dry weather has been partial, affecting only particular districts. Even in those districts, however, I have not heard of the extreme poverty and distress pictured by Dr. Underhill, nor has any such account found its way into the newspapers of the Colony, as would assuredly have been the case if anything like general famine or distress existed.

4. The large increase of the crime of larceny which is mentioned in Dr. Underhill's letter is substantially correct, but it does not follow that this resort to thieving is because the people are starving. It is the young and the strong of both sexes, those who are well able to work, and not the old or infirm, who fill the gaols of the Colony; and I fear it is rather an indisposition to labour than an inability to procure work which in most cases leads them to steal.

5. Imprisonment, and such hard labour as it has been found practicable to enforce, have not hitherto been found sufficient to deter from crime, nor does any disgrace attach to a person who has been in gaol. Upon release the party is received by friends, and indeed by his class generally, as if no discredit or stigma attached to him. The natural result is that the commission of crime and its consequences are little thought of, and larcenies have increased to an alarming extent.

6. An Act has however recently passed the Legislature for enforcing a better system of hard labour, and for the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases which, if assented to by Her Majesty's Government, will I believe have a most beneficial influence, and prove very efficacious in repressing this particular offence.

7. I transmit a letter from the Reverend Samuel Oughton, Baptist Minister, which has been published in the Jamaica newspapers, relative to the circular recently issued by the Baptist Missionary Society in London, entitled "Distress in Jamaica."

The Rev. S. Oughton to Editor of "Jamaica Guardian," 25 Feb. 1865.

I have not seen the circular referred to, but Mr. Oughton considers it to be founded upon the "injudicious and exaggerated statements of one or two" of his brother ministers, which he does "not believe are fair and truthful representations of the "state of things at present existing amongst the labouring population of this Island."

Mr. Oughton has pointed out the true origin of the evils referred to, when he states that "the real cause in the great majority of cases is, in my opinion, only to be found in "the inveterate habits of idleness, and the low state of moral and religious principles "which prevail to so fearful a degree in our community."

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure in No. 9.

Encl. in No. 9

To the Editor of the Jamaica Guardian.

SIR,

I HAVE just read your leading article of this morning on a circular recently issued by the Baptist Missionary Society in London, entitled "Distress in Jamaica," and as it is desirable that all the Baptist ministers in Jamaica should not suffer in public estimation for the injudicious and

JAMAICA.

exaggerated statements of one or two, I beg leave through your columns to declare that I have never made any such communications to the Society in England, and further, that I do not believe that they are fair and truthful representations of the state of things at present existing amongst the labouring population of this Island.

There can be no doubt that a large amount of poverty exists amongst us, and it is true that the attendance at places of public worship has very much declined, and that dishonesty and crime have increased to such an extent that our prisons are crowded to a degree corresponding to the emptiness of our chapels, whilst new and more stringent laws have become necessary to afford protection to property; but I do not believe that these accumulated evils are to be wholly or principally attributed to excessive droughts, inability to obtain employment, or dear salt fish and calico. These may indeed tend to intensify and aggravate the evils; but the real cause in the great majority of cases is, in my opinion, only to be found in the inveterate habits of idleness and the low state of moral and religious principles which prevail to so fearful a degree in our community.

As you have invited protests from such Baptist ministers as dissent from the opinions set forth in the Baptist Mission Circular, I have felt it only just to myself and the public to send in mine, and am

Yours faithfully,

East Queen Street, Kingston, 25th Feb. 1865. SAMUEL OUGHTON, Baptist Minister.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 45.) King's House, March 7, 1865.

SIR, (Received March 31, 1865.)

* Page 7. † Page 3. REFERRING to my Despatch No. 40 * of the 2d instant, in reference to Dr. Underhill's communication transmitted in your Despatch No. 150 † of the 27th January, I have the honour to transmit some observations which have been addressed to me by the Bishop of Kingston, and by Mr. Hosack, a member of the Executive Committee and custos of the parish of St. Georges.

2. I do not comment upon these communications, as I purpose addressing you generally on the subject, when I receive the replies of the other parties who have been invited to give their opinions.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 10.

Enclosure 1 in No. 10.

The Bishop of KINGSTON to Governor EYRE.

SIR, Craigton, March 2, 1865.

I RECEIVED on my arrival in Spanish Town from Manchester on Saturday last the copy of a letter from Dr. Underhill to the Chief Secretary for the Colonies, which I now return, with my best thanks to your Excellency for inviting the expression of my views on the subject to which it relates. I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my conviction that the representations which have been made to the Secretary of State, and similar representations which have, as appears from the newspapers, obtained considerable publicity in England of the increasing distress of the coloured population of this Island are, to say the least, very highly coloured, very inaccurate. There is distress in this country, as in every other, but not, I am convinced, great distress, nor, so far as I have any reason to believe, increasing distress. And I know not of one person in this Island of any class or colour who deeply grieves over the "sufferings of the coloured population" as Dr. Underhill says he did in 1860. Before I had received your Excellency's Despatch, my attention had been drawn by one of the clergy to certain statements in the newspapers on this subject which he considered false and disgraceful, and repeatedly said demanded emphatic contradiction. Such statements, if credited, would do more to deter capitalists and persons of enterprise from venturing hither than any legislation could possibly do to encourage them.

2. There have been some severe droughts, as your Excellency must be aware, in some parts of the Island in the last two years, to which period Dr. Underhill particularly refers, and one flood of extraordinary violence, chiefly in the parish of St. Elizabeth, which have caused considerable distress, though local and temporary. I have just made inquiry of one of my servants as to the state of things in Manchester. He tells me he "see plenty of bread-kind of all sorts" in Mandeville, and they "don't dear at all." Articles of clothing are all dear, cotton especially, and I am inclined to doubt the present expediency of an ad valorem duty; but in none of the large assemblages of the people which I have recently witnessed, as at the laying of the foundation stone of the new church at Morant Bay, at the consecration of the church at Porus, and at some of the confirmations, has there been any apparent diminution in the numbers attending on such occasions; and, with very few exceptions, they have been not only decently clad, but well dressed; and as respects the candidates for confirmation, some youthful, some elderly persons, I do not find one in twenty otherwise than well dressed; and I never in my life heard, though such cases may possibly have happened, of any one being kept back by want of decent clothing.

3. Local and temporary distress, and a state of comparative poverty (though not by any means of

discomfort or actual want as the ordinary condition), must prevail amongst a people satisfied, as many are, to remain in a semi-barbarous state, taking no thought for the morrow, and satisfied with such food as their own grounds (or their neighbours) can supply, or with "such things as grow of themselves."

If Devonshire were in Jamaica the apple orchards would hardly continue to exist. The people, not all, but not a few, would steal the fruit before it was ready for the cider press, cook it in some simple way, live on it so long as it lasted, and refuse to work for wages till they wanted money to buy food. And with all the wisdom of Parliament, all the energy of our Executive, the remedy would be hard to find.

4. But I believe the people in many districts are improving in steadiness and forethought, in morality, and in wealth. I do not forget the increase of petty larceny, or the increasing difficulty in the Plantain Garden River District and others of obtaining labour on the sugar estates. As the crust of the earth is geologically both rising and falling, so I believe are the people of this Island both ascending and descending in the scale of civilization. It is not want, but idleness and profligacy, which lead to theft. Your Excellency has already proved this to demonstration. The thieves are young. The provision grounds are not plundered by fathers of families starving, but by young men, worthless and reckless, who, if they have children, care not to maintain them.

5. Provisions are by no means cheap, comparatively, in these mountains. We are between Kingston and Newcastle. There is a considerable demand and a poor soil. Few, if any, of the labouring class who attend St. Mark's Chapel have work on the coffee properties in the higher mountains. My wife and English maid servant agree in telling me that fully half the women come to church dressed, not in cotton prints, but in muslins, or other more expensive materials. A few are in the very height of the fashion, according to their own ideas; and I know of no claims on my charity, except from temporary sickness, infirmity or old age, anywhere near me.

6. It is very desirable to encourage the cultivation of articles of export by the peasantry. I do not include sugar, as Dr. Underhill does. I am content to refer to the anticipated answers to the questions in my circular by the Rector of Westmoreland for proof of the profitable nature of sugar cultivation and manufacture by the small settlers. He was the unpaid factor for his people, helping them with occasional loans of money, transmitting their produce to Kingston, and selling it for them at a good price so long as he resided in Clarendon. But I doubt whether this could be undertaken or very materially encouraged by the Government.

7. And it is very desirable that the people should be given, if possible, some instruction in handicrafts, and in the cultivation of a greater variety of articles for domestic or foreign use. Many of the commonest and plainest articles in wood and iron are now imported. Your Excellency is aware how I have for a long time endeavoured to obtain these objects by means of industrial schools; hitherto with no success. The Government empowered by the Legislature, might perhaps be more successful than I have been.

7. I can foresee no good result from a commission of inquiry into the recent legislation in Jamaica. But your Excellency will not need my assistance in reporting upon the political portions of the letter before me.

As a question of political economy, I cannot believe the people of Jamaica to be too heavily taxed. I do not believe that any great diminution in the price of necessaries would conduce to the one great desideratum, the rendering the people more industrious, more energetic, more provident, more honest. We must hope for the attainment of this rather from religion and education,—the church and the school,—and from the progress, now too decided to admit of question, of religion and morality amongst the upper classes of society. The heathen poet who held that the deities "curis acuunt mortalia corda," and the Scotch philosophers and theologians who maintain that the sterility of the soil is the cause of manly virtues, wealth, and happiness to the people of Scotland, would probably think with me that in the present low condition of this people any great reduction in the value of food or clothing would be of very questionable benefit.

7. I shall forward this letter to your Excellency without delay, but I hope before the departure of the mail to add to it a postscript containing valuable information, or at least putting you in possession of the opinions of the most able of my clerical brethren in answer to a circular issued by me on Monday last.

Reserving all further remark till I have received these answers,

I am, &c.

His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica. (Signed) REGINALD KINGSTON.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 10.

Encl. 2 in No. 10.

EXTRACT from "Christian World," London Paper, of 27th January 1865.

A CRY FROM JAMAICA.

WE in this country have just been congratulating ourselves on the removal of the great cloud of distress from the cotton districts. No longer dependant for a supply of cotton upon the Southern States of America, the Lancashire mills have once more, to a considerable extent at least, commenced working; things are gradually finding their level; and the grim disasters of the cotton famine are fast becoming matters of history. We have even extracted some portion of comfort from the calamity, for we do not expect that any political difficulties and complications of the future will find us so liable to injury from the withdrawal of any one commodity from our imports as we were when the Americans no longer sent us cotton. And now a cry reaches us from a distant part of the dependencies of this great empire—a cry of hunger and cold and nakedness not unlike that which rose up from the north of England three years ago. It is aroused partly by causes traceable to the American war, and partly by a fearful drought which has prevailed for no less than two years throughout the country.

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The scene of these sufferings is Jamaica, where the peasantry, free coloured people, of course, are struggling with terrible privations; and even the European missionaries are encountering perils and hardships which cannot but awaken the profoundest sympathies of their friends at home. The Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society have just issued an appeal, signed by Sir Morton Peto, and the secretaries, Rev. F. Trestrail and Dr. Underhill, founded upon these facts. The agents of that society have always shown themselves the true friends of the people; they were foremost in the work of emancipation; and when interested parties endeavoured to show that coloured people were unfit for the enjoyment of liberty, and had no stimulus for work beyond their mere animal necessities, the society sent out a special commission to inquire into the facts, and the result was that the free negroes were exonerated from the calumnies which had been heaped upon them. At the same time it was admitted that the demon of slavery had left his mark upon the Island, and that there was room for improvement, physically, morally, and spiritually, in the condition of the peasantry. The friends of emancipation, however, did not leave them to their fate. By example and by precept the missionaries laboured to benefit the people. Churches were formed, schools established, and, by degrees, the tone of society became healthy and sound. Other difficulties have, however, come upon the Island. Two years ago a severe drought set in, and has continued, with scarcely an intermission, to the present time. Owing to the American war, the prices of all kinds of imports have been increased, and the condition of the peasantry threatens to become worse than it ever was. The cost of provisions and clothing of all kinds is enormous, and the want of employment, owing to the drought, has taken away from the people the means of purchasing them even if they had continued at their old prices. The calamity is thus as it were two-edged, and the result is pitifully described in the appeal to which we refer. "Large portions of the population," say the committee, "are plunged into the depths of "poverty. Their clothes have become ragged, and multitudes are almost naked. Petty thefts and "the robbery of provision grounds, arising chiefly from absolute want, have more than doubled, "rendering it necessary in the judgment of the Governor of the Island to build new prisons, and to "inflict heavier punishments." In the meantime it appears that "all moral and spiritual improvement "is brought to a stand. Schools are being broken up and schoolmasters dismissed, whilst the pastors "of churches, dependant on their people for support, necessarily participate in this suffering, and "unless promptly assisted will be deeply involved in debt, or driven from their posts." These facts are asserted by extracts from letters received from the missionaries and other residents on the Island. One gentleman writes:—"I never witnessed such a depressed state of things. Were it not for the "promises of God's Word I should despair of seeing any improvement; but God can, and doubtless "will, in his own good time, chase away the cloud, and cause light to arise out of darkness." Another says, "Whether from want of money or clothing, or from want of both, our chapels are very scantily "attended. The only Sabbath on which we can count for a pretty good congregation is the Sabbath "of the Lord's Supper." A third says, "This will be the saddest year the Baptist mission in Jamaica "has ever known. Some brethren write to me about leaving; they cannot, they say, remain without "being ruined and degraded." Under these circumstances the committee have resolved to appeal to the British public for aid in the shape of contributions in money or in clothing. Experience has proved that such appeals when well-founded are not made in vain, and we doubt not that there are thousands in this country who will be able to spare a little from their own abundance to minister to their suffering brethren and fellow-subjects in Jamaica. Contributions may be sent to the secretaries of the Baptist Missionary Society, 33, Moorgate Street, London.

Encl. 3 in No. 10.

Enclosure 3 in No. 10.

Mr. Hosack's remarks on Mr. Underhill's letter to Mr. Cardwell.

Mr. UNDERHILL'S letter of the 5th of January 1865 to the Secretary of State, as to the present condition of Jamaica, has had my best consideration. In remarking on the various points in that letter I find I cannot take them exactly in the order in which they occur, without sacrificing perspicuity. I shall therefore take them in their natural order, and conclude with some general observations.

2. The first and most important statement made is that every mail for several months past had conveyed letters from Jamaica to Mr. Underhill, informing him of the continually increasing distress of the coloured population. By "coloured" he means, I presume, the black population. My answer to this is that the Government have had no proofs of any such distress among that class; nor have the clergy or the public journals of the Island indicated its presence. Should, however, the existing partial drought continue in certain districts, distress no doubt will result. The illustrations given by Mr. Underhill as to the true origin of crime in Jamaica entirely fail in their object, in my opinion. Since the extreme poverty referred to (where it exists) is, in nine cases out of ten, the result of sheer idleness, and a growing dislike to steady industry, and a consequent preference to a dishonest mode of living, with the risks of occasional imprisonment, to one of honest labour, with the remote certainty of independence. These added to the ease with which provision grounds can be plundered with little risk of detection, and the indifference with which imprisonment is now regarded, operate as a serious drawback and discouragement to industrious settlers. It is notorious that a labourer, by working one day in a week, can, owing to the high productiveness of the land, keep himself in ground provisions all through the year; he, therefore, cannot starve, unless he returns to primeval barbarism. The fact is, that any quantity of virgin land can be rented from 20*s.* to 16*s.* per acre, and in three months after planting, heavy crops of sweet potatoes and peas can be reaped at any season of the year; corn in four months; cotton at six months, at the same time; canes, yams, and plantains in ten or twelve months, all from the same land, without any capital at all. An acre thus cultivated may yield at least three crops of potatoes, 200 lbs. of clean cotton per annum, or yams and plantains instead of cotton. In suitable land, coffee trees can also be brought to maturity along with cotton in three years. Thus every man may be his own employer and his own capitalist, if he will make proper use of his time.

Mr. Underhill falls into a great fallacy when he says the taxation of the Island is too heavy for her resources, and must necessarily render the cost of producing the staples higher than they can bear, to meet the competition in the markets of the world.

3. Mr. Underhill, I suppose, means that the taxed produce of a free country (taxed also with wages) cannot compete with the comparatively untaxed produce of a slave country in the London market at equal duties. If we had no taxation at all I am certain we could not compete with Cuba, considering what she has done, and can still do, by means of slavery. The taxation in Jamaica is lower than any of the first-class British colonies on this side of the Atlantic and of the Cape of Good Hope. The British Guiana people are taxed about 1*l.* 14*s.* per head, and their exports average 11*l.* per head; Trinidad people are taxed about 2*l.* 5*s.*, and their exports average 9*l.* per head; Canada people are taxed about 1*l.* 8*s.*, and their exports average 3*l.* 10*s.* per head; the Cape of Good Hope people are taxed 2*l.* 15*s.*, and their exports average 7*l.* 10*s.* per head; while Jamaica people are barely taxed 14*s.*, and their exports average about 2*l.* per head. A reference to official statistics for 1865 will show the general correctness of these figures, which clearly prove how superficially Mr. Underhill has gone into the question of Jamaica taxation.

4. There is undoubtedly very great distress in the Island of Jamaica, but that distress is among the producers of sugar, owing to the low prices of that article, resulting from the heavy supplies of slave origin. Indeed Mr. Underhill candidly admits that at the best, with all scientific appliances the planters can bring to it, both of capital and machinery, sugar manufacturing is a hazardous thing. He is, however, utterly wrong in inferring that the sugar lands of Jamaica are worn out. The 300 sugar estates now in cultivation are the best of upwards of 600 that once existed, and they possess first quality land, and are, in my opinion, capable of producing double their present aggregate crops. Like corn land, sugar land will last for ever under proper management.

5. The recent increase of crops on the old lands of Barbadoes proves this. There is always a want of capital when the staple produce is low in price, and losses have to be met; every other interest in the Island is more or less dependant on sugar cultivation, and therefore suffers in the same proportion as the primary interest. But to say that "the labouring class of Jamaica is too numerous for the "work to be done" is another fallacy, when the fact is, that, compared with other populations, the work done (as evidenced by the exports) is miserable indeed. This has arisen, I believe, in some measure from the principles of self-reliance being adopted too soon by the people of Jamaica, after emancipation, under the advice of well-meaning but mistaken persons. The labouring population is not now numerous enough at the centres of industry (generally speaking), and time is wasted in going and returning to those centres.

6. Mr. Underhill allows 30,000 persons to produce 30,000 hogsheads of sugar, which they could easily do if located on the estates; but I have no doubt that not less than 60,000 persons are employed in producing that quantity of sugar, considering that not more than half a day's work is done on the average.

7. The proportion of land in the whole Island to the population is about eight acres to each person. 3,403,359 acres of land have been docketed since 1838, of which only about 1,400,000 acres now pay land tax of 1*d.* per acre, so that the remainder, 2,000,000 of acres, are virtually forfeited to the Crown, and when the newest of that land can be rented at the nominal rate before mentioned, it is self evident that it is untrue "that there is not sufficient employment for the people." Neither is it true "that "very little produce is raised for exportation by the small freeholders," nor "that they pay higher "duties in any way than the planters," nor that they pay more than 12½ per cent. ad valorem on their clothing. They not only export a considerable quantity of coffee, ginger, and arrowroot, among other things, but have numerous fields of young coffee coming into bearing; nor is it true "that they "meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute a means of support which must be undoubtedly "as advantageous to the Island as to themselves." I am not aware in what manner the labouring classes are now "unjustly taxed." I was Finance Minister from June 1855 to December 1860, and did every thing in my power to relieve the small freeholders, which was done to a considerable extent by the abolition of the hereditament tax, which fell severely on them, because they were generally assessed at a much higher rate than the large freeholders; thereby creating great irritation. The relief from that change has been considerable.

8. Mr. Underhill states that coin is very scarce in Jamaica, and "that silver is regularly exported "from the Island." If this be so, it seems to prove that Jamaica is producing a profit in some way, otherwise she could not continue to export coin; but I am not aware that such is the fact, silver, like other commodities, fluctuates in quantity, according to the demands of trade. Mr. Underhill alludes, among other things, to the refusal of just tribunals by the Legislature.

9. Twice during my first term of office I introduced a bill to appoint stipendiary magistrates to preside over the petty courts of this Island; and again last session I introduced a similar bill, but without success on each occasion. No blame, therefore, can attach to the Government in this regard. Mr. Underhill refers to the failure of provisions, as if they were failing all over the Island from drought; a calamity which never has happened in Jamaica, I believe.

10. The weather is very seasonable in the north-east districts of the Island at the present moment, namely, in Portland, St. George, Metcalfe, and St. Mary and elsewhere. These four parishes, taken together, are double the size of Barbadoes, with her population of 150,000; and are therefore able to carry a population, in proportion, on their large virgin woodland territories, capable of growing to great advantage all sorts of produce. "A searching inquiry into the past legislation of the Island," suggested by Mr. Underhill, could only be undertaken by an independent commission from England; appointed by the Crown.

11. But I confess I do not see that any good would result from such a commission, if we are still to be allowed to regulate our own affairs. The inhabitants of Jamaica do not require, in my opinion, to be encouraged by the Governor in person to grow articles of any kind; and the suggestion as to the formation of "associations for collecting and shipping the produce of small settlers" is calculated, it appears to me, to interfere with commercial enterprise; nor do I consider that any laws that could be passed in Jamaica, nor any reduction of taxation, would encourage British capitalists to settle in

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this Island, in preference to Canada, India, Australia, and other superior colonies, so long as the people of thi scountry have no prospect of being relieved from slave competition, and the low rate of wages, and profit or loss, consequent on such a competition. I am strongly of opinion that the want of religious and industrial training has also something to do with the backward condition of the colony; but I am not aware that the proceedings of the Legislature have awakened a distrust in the minds of capitalists, since the Jamaica Government find no difficulty in borrowing more money than they require; and in regard to individuals, I trust that the recent abolition of slavery in America, and the great probability of its abolition in Cuba and elsewhere, will be the means of encouragiug an extensive outlay of capital in Jamaica ere long, in order to realize the immense advantages which promise to result from such important events.

(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

28th February 1865.

No. 11.

No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE, to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 54.) King's House, March 21, 1865.

(Received, April 15, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered No. 223, June 15, 1865, page 19.)

28 Vict. c. 38.

I HAVE the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of "An Act to establish a "Volunteer Militia Force in this island," together with the island secretary's summary thereof.

The serious illness of the Attorney General precludes my attaching that officer's report.

2. The previous volunteer acts would have expired on the 31st of this month, and this enactment is intended both to take the place of and amend them.

Officers on first appointment are to have an income of 120*l.* per annum; non-commissioned officers or privates having an income of 40*l.* per annum may volunteer.

Promotions to be subsequently made by the Governor.

Provision is made in the 12th clause for the admission of honorary members, who, being exempt from actual service, or drill, may wear the uniform and contribute to the funds of the corps to which they may be attached, as well as enjoy a relative rank. The object of this clause is to enlist the interest and support of the influential persons in a district by attaching them to the local corps as honorary members, when they would not be likely to join it as effective members

Provision is made for inspecting the volunteers by an officer of Her Majesty's army who is to have local rank as colonel, and is to be allowed a sum not exceeding 230*l.* per annum for the expenses of such inspections.

An assistant military secretary is provided at 75*l.* per annum.

Provision is also made for the pay and allowances of the volunteers when called out on service by competent authority, and in case of invasion they are placed under the articles of war.

The 76th clause gives power to the Governor, with the advice of the Privy Council, to call out and embody the militia, a body which has never been mustered at all of late years.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

ANNO REGNI VICESIMO OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Jamaica, ss. No. 4,502.

CAP. XXXVIII.

An Act to establish a Volunteer Militia Force in this Island.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient to empower the Governor to raise a volunteer militia force in this island: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

Title of act.

First.—This Act may be cited as "The Volunteer Militia Act, 1865."

Formation of Companies.

Services of persons desiring to form volunteer companies to be accepted.

Second.—It shall be lawful for the Governor to accept the services of persons desiring to be formed into a volunteer militia company or companies, who shall offer their services to Her Majesty, through the custos of the parish in which the said company or companies is or are to be formed and established.

Services of former volunteers to be continued, &c.

Third.—It shall be lawful for the Governor, if he should think fit, to continue the services of all volunteer companies whose services have been accepted before the passing of this Act; and the

services of every such company shall be deemed to be continued by his Excellency unless and until he shall think fit to exercise the power of disbanding or discontinuing the services of the same; the provisions of this Act shall apply to every company as if its services were accepted under this Act, without prejudice to any thing already done in relation to or by any such company.

Volunteer officers to fill up vacancies under certain restrictions.

Fourth.—A majority of the commissioned officers of each volunteer company shall from time to time receive and admit volunteers as non-commissioned officers and privates, to supply any vacancy that may occur therein; no person who has been dismissed from any volunteer company shall be permitted to join any other company, except with the previous sanction of the Governor; and no person who has left a volunteer company shall be permitted to join any other company, except on the production of a certificate from his former commanding officer to the effect that he knows no reason why such person should not re-enlist, and that he had faithfully discharged his duties when formerly in the service.

Officers.

Qualification for officers of volunteers.

Fifth.—Any person holding a commission in the militia in any parish of this island, and any other person in any such parish who shall be desirous of tendering his services as an officer of the volunteers of such parish, shall forward to the custos a notification of such his desire to serve, together with an affidavit, sworn to before any justice of the peace, stating that he is in receipt of an income or salary of not less than one hundred and twenty pounds per annum; the custos shall, on receipt of such notification and affidavit, forward the same, without delay, to the Governor, who is hereby empowered to make all appointments of commissioned officers in the volunteer force of this island.

Who are ineligible.

Sixth.—No person who has been or may be dismissed from any regiment of militia, or from any company or corps of volunteers, shall be eligible to be appointed an officer of any volunteer company.

As to preservation of the rank of militia officers.

Seventh.—Any officer in the foot or horse militia respectively may, if he shall be willing, be appointed as an officer in any volunteer company as of a rank or grade lower than that held by him in such militia; but he shall nevertheless retain his rank and grade in such militia, so as to entitle him to promotion therein.

As to promotion by the Governor.

Eighth.—Every person, after his first appointment as an officer of any company, may be promoted to a higher rank by the Governor; but every first appointment as an officer, in consequence of any vacancy, must be made in the manner prescribed for original appointments from among the persons whose applications may from time to time be submitted to the Governor through the custos.

Commissions to be free of stamp duty.

Ninth.—Every officer of volunteers now in existence who may not have already received a commission, and every officer hereafter appointed, shall receive a commission from the Governor, which commission shall be free of stamp duty and of every other charge; the issue of all commissions shall be notified in the Gazette, and a list of the several officers of volunteers, with the dates of their appointments, shall also be published once in every six months in the same Gazette.

Non-commissioned Officers.

Commanding officer to appoint non-commissioned officers.

Tenth.—The commanding officer of every volunteer company shall appoint the non-commissioned officers to the same, and fill up vacancies as they may occur; and all such non-commissioned officers shall hold their rank during the pleasure of the commanding officer.

Qualification.

Qualification for non-commissioned officers and privates.

Eleventh.—Every person not disabled by bodily infirmity, and possessing an income of forty pounds per annum, may tender his services as a non-commissioned officer or private of any volunteer artillery or rifle company; and any person possessed of the qualification aforesaid, and having a horse of the value of fifteen pounds or upwards, may tender his services as a non-commissioned officer or private of any cavalry or mounted rifle company.

Honorary Members.

Honorary members not included in muster rolls, &c.

Twelfth.—It shall be lawful for a majority of the officers of a company to admit persons as honorary members, but who shall not be included in the muster roll of the company to which they may be attached, nor shall they be subject to military discipline, nor liable to be assembled with the volunteers for actual military duties; they shall have authority to wear the uniform of the company to which they may be attached, and to contribute to the funds of the same; the officers of the company shall determine on the rank to be held by any honorary member elected by them, subject to the approval of the Governor.

Secretary.

Commanding officer of company to appoint a secretary.

Thirteenth.—The commanding officer of any company is hereby invested with the power of appointing any officer, non-commissioned officer, or honorary member of his company to act as secretary to the same.

Enlistment.

Oath on enlistment to be entered in a book and to be evidence.

Fourteenth.—Every volunteer (except honorary members) shall take the following oath:

'I, *A.B.*, do sincerely promise and swear, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her 'Majesty Queen Victoria, and that I will faithfully serve in the volunteer militia of Jamaica, for the 'defence of the said island, and the maintenance of order and the public peace therein, during my 'enrolment in such volunteer militia.'

Which oath may be administered to any volunteer by any justice of the peace of this Island. On the oath being administered to a volunteer, he shall sign a formula of such oath, which shall have previously been entered in a book to be kept by the commanding officer for that purpose, and the signature of such volunteer shall be attested by the justice of the peace administering the oath, and

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such entry and signature shall *ipso facto* be conclusive evidence, without further proof of the fact of the party who has taken the oath, and signed the same, being a volunteer.

Period of Enlistment.

Under what circumstances non-commissioned officers may resign.

Fifteenth.—No commissioned officer shall be allowed to resign without first obtaining the sanction of the Governor, upon sufficient reasons being given for such resignation, and upon his paying all moneys due or becoming due by him to his corps or company, and such further amount as may be laid down in the rules to be promulgated by the Governor, on the recommendation of the board of officers regulating the resignation of officers; any non-commissioned officer or private may be permitted, by a majority of the officers of his company, to retire therefrom, when not on actual service, after giving one month's notice to his commanding officer of his desire to do so, and delivering up in good order, fair wear and tear only excepted, all arms, clothing, and appointments, being public property, or property of his company issued to him, and paying all moneys due or becoming due by him under this Act, or any regulations promulgated by the Governor, or any rules of the company; and thereupon his name shall be struck out of the muster roll of the company by the commanding officer.

In case of refusal he may appeal, and under what circumstances his name may be struck off the roll.

Sixteenth.—If any non-commissioned officer or private gives the notice above prescribed, and a majority of the officers of his company should refuse to grant him leave to resign from the same, and he considers himself aggrieved thereby, he may appeal to two justices of the peace of the parish to which the company belongs, they not being volunteers, who shall hear and determine the appeal; and may, for the purposes thereof, summon and examine any person as a witness on oath; and if it appears to such justices that the arms, clothing, and appointments issued to the said non-commissioned officer or private, being public property, or property of his company or corps, have been delivered up in good order (fair wear and tear only excepted), or that he has paid sufficient compensation for any damage that such articles may have sustained, and that all monies due, or becoming due by him under the provisions of this Act, or the rules and regulations to be issued by the Governor, or the rules of his company, have been paid, such justices may order the commanding officer forthwith to strike such non-commissioned officer or private out of the muster roll of the company, and their determination shall be binding on all parties.

Disbanding of Companies.

Governor may disband companies, form others, and dispense with services of officers.

Seventeenth.—Any volunteer company may be disbanded by authority of the Governor, who may thereupon authorize the formation of another company in lieu thereof, and agreeably to the provisions of this Act; it shall be lawful for the Governor, upon good and sufficient cause, proved to his satisfaction, to dispense with the services of any officer, non-commissioned officer, or other member of any volunteer company, which dismissal shall be notified in the Gazette, within ten days thereafter.

Band or Drum Corps.

Volunteer company may form band or drum corps, &c.

Eighteenth.—Every volunteer company is hereby empowered to form either a band or drum corps, either separately or conjointly with another company, or other companies, and every member of such band or drum corps shall be held and taken to be a member of the company, exclusive of the men forming the rank and file, and shall be subject to the same discipline, and shall have and enjoy all the rights and privileges conferred on volunteers by this or any other Act of this island.

who are to be governed by regulations to be approved by the Governor.

Nineteenth.—The band or drum corps of a company, or of conjoint companies, shall be governed in such manner as a majority of the officers of such company or companies may from time to time determine upon, but such regulations shall not have effect until they have been approved by the Governor, and lodged with the clerk of the peace of the parish in which such band or drum corps may be established, whereupon the same shall have the force and effect of law.

Uniforms—Arms.

Uniform, arms, &c., to be such as Governor may direct, but to be property of the Island.

Twentieth.—The uniform, arms, equipment, accoutrements, ammunition, and other stores of the officers and men of the several volunteer companies, shall be such as the Governor shall from time to time direct; the arms, equipment, accoutrements, ammunition and stores required by the volunteers shall be furnished to the non-commissioned officers and privates at the expense of the Island, but shall always remain Island property.

Uniforms for non-commissioned officers and privates to be furnished at the public expense, or commutation paid therefor.

Twenty-first.—The Governor shall cause the non-commissioned officers and privates to be respectively furnished with uniforms at the expense of the public, or pay to each such volunteer an amount annually, in commutation of such clothing, subject to any rule or regulation that may be hereafter promulgated by the Governor, on the recommendation of the board of officers.

Penalty on officer resigning and not delivering up arms, &c. entrusted to his care.

Twenty-second.—Every officer commanding any volunteer company, who shall, on his resignation of office, or dismissal, or within seven days thereafter, neglect or refuse to hand over to the officer, or non-commissioned officer next in command, or to any person appointed by the Governor to receive the same, all arms, accoutrements, ammunition, and other articles which may have been issued or entrusted to his care, shall be liable to a fine or penalty not exceeding five pounds, nor less than two pounds, in addition to the value of the article or articles so withheld.

Penalty on member of company dismissed for not delivering articles committed to his care.

Twenty-third.—Every member of any volunteer company who shall fail to deliver up to the officer in command of such company all arms, accoutrements, ammunition, bugles, or any other article or articles entrusted to his care, within seven days after having received intimation of his dismissal from the company in which he shall have been enrolled or appointed to, or after his resignation as aforesaid, shall, on conviction, be liable to pay a fine or penalty not exceeding five pounds, nor less than twenty shillings, in addition to the value of the article or articles so withheld by him.

Penalty on volunteer embezzling, negligently wasting, or injuring arms, ammunition, &c.

Twenty-fourth.—Any volunteer who shall embezzle, pawn, sell, lose by carelessness, or designedly or negligently waste, spoil, injure, or use for any other purposes than those of Her Majesty the Queen, any arms, ammunition, accoutrements, or other articles with which any corps or company, or any part thereof, has been or shall hereafter be furnished at the public expense, shall be liable to a fine not

exceeding two pounds, as a court of inquiry shall direct, in addition to the value of the article or articles so destroyed or unlawfully disposed of; and any person other than a volunteer who shall be guilty of any of the acts in this section contained shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, in addition to the value of the article or articles as aforesaid, to be recovered as herein-after directed, or to imprisonment in any gaol for any period not exceeding twenty days.

Penalty on persons buying, or assisting to sell for volunteer stores or ammunition issued fo volunteer company.

Twenty-fifth.—If any person knowingly buys or takes in exchange from any volunteer, or any person acting on his behalf, or solicits or entices any volunteer to sell, or knowingly assists or acts for any volunteer in selling, or has in his possession or keeping, without satisfactorily accounting for the same, any arms, ammunition, clothing, or appointments, being public property, or the property of any volunteer corps or company, or any public stores or ammunition issued for the use of any such corps or company, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, or imprisonment in any gaol for any period not exceeding twenty days.

Penalty on persons not delivering up arms, &c. of deceased volunteer.

Twenty-sixth.—In case of the death of any volunteer or other person who may have received any arms, ammunition, accoutrements, or other articles belonging to any volunteer company, it shall be the duty of the person into whose possession such arms or other articles aforesaid shall come to deliver them over forthwith to the officer commanding the company to which such arms or other article shall belong, under a penalty not exceeding five pounds, in addition to the value of the articles so withheld; and, in default of payment of such fine and value as aforesaid, such person shall be imprisoned in any gaol for a period not exceeding ten days, as the justices shall award.

Arms, &c. imported free from duty.

Twenty-seventh.—All arms, accoutrements, ammunition, uniforms, and musical instruments imported for the use of any militia or volunteer company shall be free of all import duties and town dues.

Drilling Exercise.

Volunteers to be drilled at places fixed for that purpose, as Governor or commanding officer may order.

Twenty-eighth.—Each company of volunteers shall be drilled once at least every month, on a day, and at a place to be fixed by the commanding officer of such company, but the Governor, or the commanding officer of a company, may order extraordinary drills or parades, whenever or wherever he may think proper; any member absent at any drill or parade, and not having sent a good and sufficient excuse, in writing, or previously obtained leave of absence from the commanding officer, shall be fined in such sum or sums as may be fixed or laid down from time to time in the regulations to be issued by the Governor, on the recommendation of the board of officers.

Volunteer guilty of insubordination or breach of discipline, may be arrested, and subsequently tried.

Twenty-ninth.—If any volunteer shall, while under arms, or on march, or on any other duty, or while engaged in any military exercise or drill, or while wearing the clothing or accoutrements of his company, and going to or returning from any place of exercise or assembly of his company, disobey any lawful order of any officer or non-commissioned officer under whose command he then is, or shall be guilty of misconduct, breach of discipline, or insubordination, the officer in command of the corps or company, or any superior officer in command, may order the offender, if an officer, under arrest, and if a non-commissioned officer or private, into the custody of any drill instructor, or any volunteer belonging to the same or any other corps or company, but so that the offender is not kept longer under such arrest or custody than during the time the corps or company, or such portion thereof as aforesaid, remain under arms, or on march, or duty, or assembled, or continues engaged in any military exercise or drill as aforesaid; but such arrest or custody shall not prevent the offender from being subsequently tried by a court of inquiry for any such offence.

Administrative Corps.

Two or more volunteer corps of the same or adjoining parishes may be joined for drill.

Thirtieth.—Two or more volunteer companies in the same parish, or in adjoining parishes, may be administratively united on the joint application of the commanding officer of each such company; notwithstanding the formation of any such administrative corps the several companies formed into the same shall be severally deemed a separate company for all the purposes of this Act; it shall be lawful for the Governor to direct the muster (not more than once in six months) of any administrative corps for drill and exercise.

Drill Instructors.

On actual service command may be placed in military officer.

Thirty-first.—Whenever any volunteers, company, or corps are on actual service, or are undergoing inspection, or are doing any other military duty, the Governor may place them and their officers under the command of such officer or officers of Her Majesty's army, senior in rank to every officer of the volunteer force who may be present, as his Excellency may determine upon.

Governor to appoint drill instructors, and pay them, &c.

Thirty-second.—The Governor shall appoint as many drill instructors from Her Majesty's army as may be necessary for instructing the volunteers, and such drill instructors shall be paid out of the money voted for militia and volunteer services at such rates as may be considered reasonable for their services; they shall be subject to the orders of the officers commanding the company or corps to which they may from time to time be attached, but they shall be amenable only to the military authorities for any misconduct or breach of military discipline committed by them; nothing herein contained shall prevent the Governor from appointing any efficient volunteer as a drill instructor, on his being declared competent for the duty by the board of officers to be appointed under this Act, and such volunteer shall be paid a like sum for his services as may be provided for drill instructors selected from the army: Provided, that no volunteer company which shall be in existence for three years shall be entitled to a drill instructor at the public expense.

Proviso.

Inspections—Reviews.

Annual inspection by an officer of the army.

Thirty-third.—An annual inspection of every volunteer corps shall be held by a competent officer of Her Majesty's army, to be from time to time appointed for that purpose by the Governor, and such officer shall be paid for such service such sum as the Governor, in executive committee, may award; provided that the whole cost of inspection does not exceed the sum of two hundred and thirty pounds per annum, to be paid out of the money voted for militia and volunteer purposes.

Proviso as to cost.

JAMAICA.

Military Secretary.

Officer appointed to inspect volunteers to discharge duties of military secretary.

Thirty-fourth.—The officer appointed to inspect the volunteers and militia shall discharge the duties of military secretary to the Governor in volunteer and militia matters, and all such orders, directions, and notifications conveyed or signed by such military secretary to the militia or volunteers shall be deemed and taken to all intents and purposes to proceed from the Governor; and such military secretary shall be assisted in his duties by an assistant, who shall receive the sum of seventy-five pounds per annum.

Salary of an assistant.

Rank of military secretary.

Thirty-fifth.—The military secretary shall be entitled to hold the brevet rank of colonel in the militia and volunteer militia, and he shall be relieved of all stamp duties and other charges whatsoever on his commission as such.

Staff Appointments.

Staff officer to be appointed from the volunteers.

Thirty-sixth.—It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint any volunteer officer or officers to act on his staff for volunteer purposes, but no officer so appointed shall be entitled to any remuneration whatever for his services.

Board of Officers.

Board of officers to be annually appointed.

Thirty-seventh.—The Governor shall annually appoint a board of officers, to consist of the Governor's military secretary and ten volunteer officers, and from time to time to fill up any vacancy that may occur; the assistant to the military secretary shall act as secretary to such board; three of such board shall be a quorum for the transaction of any business.

Nature of the rules and regulations they are to make.

Thirty-eighth.—The board of officers shall from time to time make rules and regulations respecting anything in this Act directed or authorized to be done or provided for by regulations; and also such regulations as may seem fit (not being inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act), respecting,

The strength of each company, as well as the distribution of its officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates;

The appointment or promotion of officers of administrative corps or volunteer companies;

The efficiency of volunteers, and the granting of certificates of such efficiency;

The assembling and proceedings of courts of inquiry;

And the full execution of this Act, and the general government and discipline of the volunteer force;

which, when approved, are to be published, and have force of law.

and all such rules and regulations, when approved of by the Governor in Privy Council, and published in the "Gazette," shall have the force and effect of law, and shall be quoted as such in any court of inquiry, or in any court of law or equity in this Island; the board may from time to time alter or repeal any such rules and regulations, subject to the approval and promulgation by the Governor as aforesaid; all funds already voted, or which may hereafter be voted for volunteer militia purposes, shall be distributed by the Governor, in executive committee, on the recommendation of such board of officers.

They may be altered.

Distribution of funds.

Actual Service.

Duties upon which volunteers may be ordered.

Thirty-ninth.—The Governor is hereby empowered to order the volunteers, or any portion thereof, as to him may seem fit, to any part of the Island to aid in the defence of the said Island, the maintenance of order and the public peace therein, the protection of property, or the upholding of the law; it shall be lawful for the custos, or, in his absence, the senior magistrate of any parish in which any of the aforesaid emergencies may arise, to call out the volunteers of the said parish; all requisitions for the service of the volunteers must be made in writing, and signed by the authority making the same.

Absence from, or refusal to do duty deemed desertion.

Fortieth.—Whenever a volunteer corps or company, or any part thereof, shall be called out as aforesaid, every member thereof shall be bound to assemble as he may be directed by his commanding officer, and to proceed to the place at which his presence is required; and from the time the corps or company is so called out it shall be deemed to be on actual service, and any officer, non-commissioned officer, private, or other party attached to the same, not incapacitated by infirmity for military service (which shall be established by the certificate of a medical practitioner or any two justices of the peace), who may refuse or neglect to assemble or march, or to discharge such duty as may be required of him, shall be deemed a deserter, and be tried as soon as is convenient thereafter by a court of inquiry or court martial.

Pay of commissioned officers,

Forty-first.—Every commissioned officer shall, while on actual service, be entitled to the same pay and allowances as are accorded to officers of the same rank in the regular army.

and of non-commissioned officers and privates.

Forty-two [Forty-second].—Every non-commissioned officer shall, while on actual service, be entitled to seven shillings and sixpence, and every private to five shillings per day for rations; and each member of a cavalry or mounted corps shall, in addition, be entitled to two shillings per day for the forage of his horse, such pay and allowances to be paid out of the amount voted for militia and volunteer purposes.

Volunteer included in order calling out militia in case of invasion, &c.,

Forty-third.—When the militia of any parish shall be called out in case of war, invasion, insurrection, or riot, or imminent danger, the volunteers of such parish shall be deemed to be included in the order, and they shall be allowed the same amount for rations and forage as if they were specially ordered out by the Governor, custos, or other magistrate.

who shall be released therefrom only by an order of the Governor or custos.

Forty-fourth.—After a volunteer corps or company shall have been called out for actual service the corps shall be deemed released therefrom only by an order in writing signed by the Governor, the custos, or, in his absence, by the senior magistrate of the parish in which they may be serving; and each volunteer shall receive the allowance for rations and forage aforesaid up to the time he may be released from duty; before a volunteer shall be released from actual duty he shall be returned to the parish to which his company belongs.

In case of invasion they are to be regulated by

Forty-fifth.—When the volunteers are on actual military service for the protection of the Island against invasion, they shall be regulated by and be subjected to all the provisions of the militia laws

and the rules and articles of war that are now or may hereafter be in force; but in case of any other emergency they shall be governed and regulated by the provisions of this Act, and by such rules and regulations as may from time to time be promulgated with the sanction of the Governor in Privy Council.

the same laws as the militia.

Impressments.

Forty-sixth.—Any volunteer carrying a despatch, or engaged in any other service, shall have authority to impress any horse or mule, but it shall be his duty to report such impressment to the commanding officer of the post or other authority to whom he is proceeding, who shall return the horse or mule so soon as is convenient to the owner on the conclusion of the service for which the same was impressed.

Impressment of horses or mules authorized.

Courts of Inquiry.

Forty-seventh.—The Governor may at any time assemble a court of inquiry, composed of militia and volunteer officers, or partly of officers of Her Majesty's army and partly of volunteer officers, to inquire into any matter relative to a volunteer company or companies of any parish, and to record the facts and circumstances ascertained on such inquiry, and to report on the same for the information and assistance of the Governor.

Governor may assemble courts of inquiry for volunteer purposes,

Forty-eighth.—The Governor shall, on the receipt of a complaint against any commissioned officer for misconduct, insubordination, or breach of discipline, assemble a court of inquiry to investigate the charge, and report thereon; which court shall consist of any five officers of volunteers, selected and nominated for that purpose by the Governor.

and also into complaints against commissioned officers, and to nominate officers.

Forty-ninth.—On a charge of misconduct, insubordination, or breach of discipline being preferred against any non-commissioned officer or private, the commanding officer of the company to which the accused may belong shall summon the members of the company to meet and ballot for a court of inquiry to investigate the charge, which court shall consist, for the trial of a non-commissioned officer, of two officers and three non-commissioned officers of the same or of any other company or companies of the parish; and, for the trial of a private, of one officer, two non-commissioned officers, and two privates of the same or any other company or companies of the parish.

Commanding officer to summon courts to inquire into misconduct of non-commissioned officers and privates.

Fiftieth.—The members of a court of inquiry, convened for the trial of any volunteer shall, before proceeding with the investigation, be sworn faithfully to discharge their duties; any such court shall have power to summon before them the party accused, and also any person as a witness, whose name shall have been previously forwarded to the secretary of the company, and to examine all witnesses upon oath: Any volunteer who may, on being summoned, neglect or refuse to attend and give evidence before any court of inquiry, either in his own or any other company, shall (on proof of the service of such summons) be fined in a sum not exceeding three pounds; and any other person who may be summoned as aforesaid, and who may neglect or refuse to attend and give evidence, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding two pounds, such fines to be imposed, on proof of such summons, by the president of the court, in his discretion: If the accused shall absent himself without forwarding to the president of the court such an explanation for his absence as may be considered satisfactory by a majority of the members of the court, the complaint shall, on proof of the service of the summons upon the accused, be investigated in his absence, and the decision acted upon.

How proceedings are to be conducted.

Fine for non-attendance.

Complaints may, under certain circumstances, be investigated in absence of accused.

Fifty-first.—Any court of inquiry shall have power to impose a fine, in their discretion, on any volunteer officer found guilty by them on a charge preferred against him in any sum not exceeding ten pounds, or to recommend his dismissal, or to impose a fine and recommend his dismissal.

Court of inquiry may fine officer, or recommend his dismissal,

Fifty-second.—Any such court, on finding a non-commissioned officer or private guilty of a charge preferred against him, may impose a fine not exceeding five pounds, or recommend his dismissal from the company, or impose a fine and recommend his dismissal; but in case of a non-commissioned officer the court may, in lieu of dismissal, recommend his reduction to the ranks, either with or without a fine.

and likewise non-commissioned officer or private, &c.

Reduction to the ranks.

Fifty-third.—In case the charge against any volunteer be for "desertion," the court may sentence him, in addition to any other sentence, to imprisonment in the common gaol for a period not exceeding twenty days, which sentence the president of the court shall put into execution by issuing a warrant of commitment under his hand, directed to the collector of petty debts of the parish, or to any of his lawful deputies: provided that such sentence shall have been confirmed by the Governor as herein-after directed.

Proceedings in case of desertion.

Proviso.

Fifty-fourth.—On a charge being preferred against any officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, the commanding officer of the company to which the accused shall be attached shall immediately suspend him from his duties as a volunteer, and he shall remain under such suspension until his case shall have been adjudicated or otherwise disposed of: In the case of a commanding officer the Governor, on receiving a complaint against him, shall immediately suspend him from his duties, and he shall remain under such suspension until his case shall have been adjudicated, or otherwise disposed of.

On a charge made against officer, non-commissioned officer, or private, he shall be suspended until case adjudicated.

Governor to do the like in the case of a commanding officer.

Fifty-fifth.—If any volunteer shall make a groundless, frivolous, or vexatious complaint against any other volunteer so as to cause him to be prosecuted before any court of inquiry, the party so making such complaint shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding three pounds, which fine the court, before whom the case shall be heard, may impose; but the party so fined shall be entitled to an appeal to the Governor against such decision: provided that notice of such appeal be given to the president of the court within two days after such sentence shall be promulgated, and the grounds of the appeal forwarded to such president within seven days thereafter for transmittal to the Governor.

Penalty on a person making groundless or frivolous charge.

Proviso as to appeal.

Fifty-sixth.—No sentence, made by any court of inquiry for the dismissal of a volunteer from the service, or for the imprisonment of any volunteer for "desertion," shall be carried into execution until the same shall have been confirmed by the Governor, who is hereby empowered to annul or commute the same.

No sentence to be carried into execution till confirmed by Governor.

Fifty-seventh.—Nothing herein contained shall prevent any appeal from the decision of a court of inquiry to the Governor; provided that notice of such appeal shall be given by the party sentenced to

Appeal to Governor from decision of court.

Proviso.

JAMAICA.

the president of the court within two days after such decision shall have been arrived at and promulgated; the appellant shall, within seven days thereafter, forward to the president of the court, for transmissal to the Governor, the grounds of his appeal.

Rifle Ranges.

Licence for use of target ground.

Fifty-eighth.—The Government, or any parochial vestry, or other board, society, company, corporation, person or persons may grant, and from time to time renew, any licence for the use, during any term of years, of any lands under their control as a target ground for volunteers; and any volunteer, firing on the same, with the sanction of his commanding officer, shall be held to be in the performance of a lawful duty.

Pathways across target grounds may be stopped up.

Fifty-ninth.—Where a foot-path crosses or runs inconveniently or dangerously near to any lands purchased or otherwise acquired for a rifle range, such foot-path may, with the consent of the Board of Highways and Bridges of the parish in which the same is situate, be stopped up or diverted at the cost of the public.

Officers, &c. not liable to any suit for making use of place for drill muster. Proviso.

Sixtieth.—No officer or member of any volunteer company shall be liable to any suit, civil or criminal, for or in respect of his appointing or making use of any place for drill or muster; provided the same shall not be in any cultivated ground or guinea grass piece.

Privileges—Exemptions.

Volunteers free from process while on service,

Sixty-first.—Every volunteer shall be free from arrest on all mesne or civil process for twelve hours before and during any parade, muster, drill, target practice, or any other service which he may be required to discharge under this or any other act of the legislature of this Island, or by order of the Governor, or the officer commanding his company, and for twelve hours thereafter.

and exempt from militia duty under certain circumstances, &c.

Sixty-second.—Every volunteer, except honorary members, shall be exempt from liability to serve personally, or to provide a substitute in the militia of this Island, but a non-commissioned officer or private, not being possessed of a certificate of efficiency, shall cease to have the privilege of such exemption on his being discharged, or on his resigning from a volunteer company, unless he quits such company on account of changing his place of residence, in which case he shall again be liable to perform militia duty, unless he enrolls himself in a volunteer company in the parish to which he may transfer his residence, within two months of his ceasing his connexion with the company to which he was previously attached; no person who has served for two years as a volunteer officer, or who has received a certificate of efficiency (and who has not been dismissed the service), shall be liable to be enrolled as a non-commissioned officer or private in the militia; the certificate of the commanding officer of a volunteer company, that the person named therein is a volunteer, enrolled in his company, or the certificate of efficiency in the case of a party who shall be exempt from militia duty except during martial law, or other emergency, or the commission of an ex-officer of volunteer shall be conclusive evidence thereof, and shall be sufficient to secure his exemption from militia duty for the period specified by this Act.

Volunteers relieved of taxes on certain conditions.

Sixty-third.—Every volunteer who shall have obtained a certificate of efficiency shall, on production of such certificate to the collector of dues of his parish, be relieved of the payment of any amount of taxes to the extent of forty shillings; no registration tax shall be paid on any horse kept by any officer or member of a cavalry company, or of a mounted rifle company for volunteer purposes, on his producing to the collector of dues of his parish an affidavit, sworn to before a justice of the peace to that effect.

Financial Rules and Regulations.

Two-thirds of members of volunteer company to frame rules for management of same,

Sixty-fourth.—Two-thirds of the members of any volunteer company, who may be present at a meeting convened for that purpose by the commanding officer, after ten days' notice shall have been given, are hereby empowered to make and frame rules and regulations for the management of the property, finances, and civil affairs of the company; and, on such rules and regulations being approved of by the Governor, the same shall have the force and effect of law.

which are to be lodged with clerk of peace after Governor's approval.

Sixty-fifth.—Within fourteen days after such rules and regulations shall have been approved of by the Governor, the same shall be lodged with the clerk of the peace of the parish to which the volunteer company is attached, and kept among the public records of his office.

Rules may, in like manner, be amended.

Sixty-sixth.—Two-thirds of the members of any volunteer company may, at any time after ten days notice shall have been given as aforesaid, alter, amend, or repeal any rule or regulation, subject as aforesaid to the approval of the Governor; and, in case of approval, such amendment shall be lodged with the clerk of the peace, as above provided.

Miscellaneous.

Returns to be furnished to Governor by inspecting officer.

Sixty-seventh.—The Governor may require any inspecting officer, or commanding officer of an administrative corps or company, to make and furnish to him, from time to time, such returns or reports of the strength and efficiency of the corps or company, or on any other subject connected with the volunteers, as his Excellency may deem requisite.

Penalty on commanding officer for giving false certificate.

Sixty-eighth.—Any commanding officer of a volunteer company or administrative corps who shall knowingly give any false certificate under this Act shall, besides being dismissed from his appointment, be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, one moiety whereof to be paid to the informer, and the other moiety to be appropriated to the use of the company or administrative corps to which any such officer may have been attached.

Penalty for obstructing or assaulting volunteer whilst on duty.

Sixty-ninth.—Any person who shall obstruct or assault any volunteer whilst in the execution of his duty shall, on conviction before any two or more justices of the peace, be fined in any sum not exceeding ten pounds; and, in default of payment, be imprisoned in any prison for any term not exceeding thirty days nor less than two days.

Mode of recovering subscriptions, fines, and forfeitures.

Seventieth.—All subscriptions, fines, penalties, and forfeitures imposed by any court of inquiry under this Act, or under any rules and regulations made pursuant to this Act, shall be recovered at the instance

of the officer commanding the company in which the same shall arise, under the provisions of any Act of this Island relating to the recovery of petty debts; but in case any volunteer shall be imprisoned in consequence of the non-payment of any such subscription, fine, penalty, or forfeiture, or the absence of goods and chattels whereon to levy, he may be released before the expiration of the term of the imprisonment prescribed, in respect to the non-payment of debt by any such Act or Acts, by order of the Governor or his commanding officer.

Releasement by Governor or commanding officer.

Seventy-first.—All fines and penalties hereby imposed (without the intervention of a court of inquiry), shall be recovered in a summary manner before any two or more justices of the peace of the parish or precinct where the offence shall be committed; and, if not forthwith paid, the same shall be levied by warrant of distress on the offender's goods, or, in default of sufficient distress, the offender shall be imprisoned in any common gaol (unless where otherwise directed by this Act), for any space of time not exceeding thirty days.

Jurisdiction of justices in enforcing recovery of penalties.

Seventy-second.—All subscriptions, penalties, fines, and forfeitures imposed, subscribed, and recovered under this Act, or under any rules and regulations made pursuant to this Act, shall be held to be the property of the company to which the person paying the same is or was attached, and shall be appropriated to the use of the said company by a board consisting of such officers and non-commissioned officers as may be annually appointed by the members of the company.

Appropriation of subscriptions fines, and forfeitures.

Seventy-third.—All monies subscribed by or for the use of any volunteer company, and all effects belonging to any such company, or lawfully used by it, not being the property of any individual officer or volunteer, and all lands and other property acquired by the company, shall vest in the commanding officer of the company for the time being, and his successors in office, with power to him and his successors to sue, to make contracts and conveyances, and to do all other lawful thing relating thereto; and any civil or criminal proceedings taken, by virtue of this Act, by the commanding officer of any company, shall not be discontinued or abated by reason of his death, resignation, or removal from office, but may be carried on and completed by his successor in office; in case of the disbanding of a company all property previously belonging thereto shall become vested in the Governor for the benefit of this Island.

Property belonging to volunteer companies to vest in commanding officer thereof, &c.

Seventy-fourth.—All proceedings under this Act, or under any rules and regulations made pursuant to this Act, shall be exempt from all stamp duties; and no proceedings shall be quashed for want of form.

Proceedings exempt from stamp duty.

Seventy-fifth.—The term "Governor" shall mean "governor" or "captain-general," or person administering the government for the time being; the term "person" or "party," wherever used in this Act, shall mean any individual; and the term "persons" any set of individuals, or a body of persons, corporate or unincorporate; the term "company" shall mean a volunteer troop of cavalry, or mounted rifles, or artillery, or company of rifles; the term "corps" shall mean volunteer companies combined for administrative purposes, or otherwise acting together, or any individual company; the term "volunteer" shall mean any member of a volunteer company or corps.

Interpretation.

Seventy-sixth.—The Governor shall have power, with the advice and consent of the privy council, to direct the embodiment of the militia, or any part thereof, and to call out the same for drill and exercise at such times and places and in such manner as he may appoint.

Governor and privy council to embody and call out militia for drill.

Seventy-seventh.—This Act shall come into operation from the passing thereof; and all previous Acts relating to the volunteer militia of this Island shall be and they are hereby severally repealed, without prejudice to any act done, or interest accrued, or liability or penalty incurred under, or to any proceeding for the punishment of any offence committed against any provision of either of such Acts.

This act to come into operation on passing thereof, and to repeal all volunteer acts, but not to affect acts done under them.

Seventy-eighth.—Notwithstanding the repeal of the said acts, all officers already appointed thereunder shall continue to be officers as if such acts had not been repealed, but subject to the provisions of this Act and any other Act or Acts to be hereafter passed; and all non-commissioned officers and privates, and members of band or drum corps already enrolled, shall continue to serve as volunteers, subject to the provisions of this Act.

Notwithstanding repeal of Acts officers and men to continue as such, subject to provisions of this Act.

Passed the Assembly, this 13th day of February 1865.
CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, Speaker.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 16th day of February 1865.
SAML. RENNALLS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 21st day of February 1865.
E. EYRE.

Vera copia extur.
HUGH W. AUSTIN, Island Secretary.

No. 12.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 223.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 15, 1865.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a correspondence which has passed between this office and the War Department, from which you will learn that an objection is felt by His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, to the brevet rank of colonel in the Jamaica militia being conferred on Captain Hunt, of the Royal Marines, as inspector of militia and volunteers.

War Office, 8th May.
Colonial Office, 19th May.
War Office, 6th June.

JAMAICA.

In deference to His Royal Highness's objection, I shall refrain from submitting to the Queen the Act of the Jamaica Legislature, 28 Vict. c. 38. "to establish a volunteer militia force," until the Legislature shall have had an opportunity of repealing the 35th section, which, though passed by the Jamaica Legislature in a very proper spirit, appears liable to cause inconvenience in its bearing on officers of the regular army.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

SIR, War Office, May 8, 1865.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the consideration of Mr. Secretary Cardwell, the enclosed copy of a letter which has been received from the Horse Guards, in which His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief draws attention to the inconvenience which may arise from the Governor of Jamaica having bestowed the brevet rank of colonel in the militia and volunteer militia of the Island on Captain Hunt of the Royal Marines, whom he had appointed his military secretary.

No such practice as that of conferring brevet rank on militia officers prevails in this country; and Earl de Grey would suggest to Mr. Cardwell that Governor Eyre should be requested to afford an explanation on the subject.

I have, &c.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

SIR, Horse Guards, May 3, 1865.

THE Field Marshal Commanding in Chief has received a communication from the General officer commanding at Jamaica, bringing to the notice of His Royal Highness that the Governor has appointed Capt. R. W. B. Hunt, of the corps of Royal Marines, with the brevet rank of colonel in the militia and the volunteer militia of the Island.

As this appointment confers upon Captain Hunt of the Royal Marines precedence over all officers of Her Majesty's army serving in the Colony of inferior rank to that of colonel, which would, in the event of the militia or volunteers being called out, carry with it superior command, His Royal Highness requests you will move Earl de Grey to take such measures as may be requisite to cause the withdrawal of the brevet rank of colonel which has been conferred on Capt. Hunt by his Excellency the Governor in Chief of Jamaica.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. F. FORSTER.

SIR, Downing Street, May 19, 1865.

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, enclosing copy of one from the Horse Guards respecting the brevet rank of colonel in the Jamaica militia, which has been conferred on Capt. Hunt of the Royal Marines, the military secretary to the Governor and inspector of militia and volunteers.

This brevet rank has been conferred under the 35th section of an Act of the Jamaica Legislature to establish a volunteer militia, which was referred to you in my letter of 21st April, and which Earl de Grey, by your letter of the 2nd instant, expressed his approval.

I am desired to request that this Act, and the Despatch from the Governor transmitting it (of which I annex a copy), may be submitted to His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief, and that it may be stated to His Royal Highness that if, with the explanation afforded by these papers he shall still object to the enjoyment by the inspector of militia of the brevet rank of colonel in that force, Mr. Cardwell will refrain from submitting the Act for Her Majesty's sanction until the Legislature of Jamaica shall have had an opportunity of repealing the 35th section.

I have, &c.

The Under Secretary of State, War Office. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

SIR, War Office, June 6, 1865.

I HAVE laid before the Secretary of State for War your letter of the 19th ultimo on the subject of the brevet rank of colonel in the Jamaica militia having been conferred on Capt. Hunt of the Royal Marines.

In reply, I am to request that you will acquaint Mr. Secretary Cardwell that Earl de Grey having referred your letter to the Field Marshal Commanding in Chief, His Royal Highness has intimated that as the grant to Captain Hunt of the brevet rank of colonel, conferred under the Local Act 28 Vict. cap. 38., does not appear to be necessary for the purpose of the inspection of the Jamaica militia, and would be attended with the inconvenience pointed out in the letter from the military secretary, which was communicated to you in mine of the 6th ultimo, His Royal Highness will be glad if Mr. Cardwell will refrain from submitting the Act for Her Majesty's confirmation until the Local Legislature shall have had an opportunity of repealing or modifying the 35th section.

I have, &c.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 59.)

King's House, March 22, 1865.
(Received April 15, 1865.)
(Answered No. 213, June 1, 1865, page 23.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of "An Act to authorize "the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases of larceny and other offences," together with the Island Secretary's summary thereof. 28 Vict. c. 18.

The Attorney General being seriously ill, I am unable to attach that officer's report.

2. This Act provides that upon a second or subsequent conviction for larcenies or other offences specified in the Act, any male offender may be sentenced by a judge of any circuit court to be whipped, in lieu of or in addition to the punishment already authorized by law.

3. No whipping is to exceed 25 stripes for convicts under sixteen, or 50 stripes for those above that age.

The Governor is to appoint the place of punishment, which is always to take place in the presence of a duly qualified medical practitioner, who is to report to the Governor in reference to every sentence carried out.

Provision is also made that two of the rural constables shall always be present, in order that a full knowledge of what has taken place may be circulated throughout the district.

4. The Act does not come into operation until Her Majesty's assent to it has been received.

I have earnestly to solicit this assent. A long experience in the West Indies, in several different Colonies, convinces me that the best, and I may add I believe the only means of repressing the crime of larceny, which so universally prevails, will be to introduce whipping as a punishment.

The same opinion appears to be entertained very generally by all classes of the community in this Island, and in the tour which I made round the Island last year I found the peasantry themselves were most anxious that whipping should be introduced as the only means of checking the crime of larceny, from the prevalence of which all their labour and industry were being everywhere frustrated, and their future exertions discouraged.

I may add that the Select Committee of the House of Lords in their report on prison discipline, state "The most experienced witnesses are unanimous as to the wholesome "influence of corporal punishment. Some, indeed, state that they have never known it "ineffective; and the Committee wish to record their opinion of its great value as one "form of disciplinary correction."

5. The provision that justices can only take the examinations, and that the cases are to be sent for decision before a judge of a circuit court, will, I trust, afford sufficient security that no abuse of the power to inflict corporal punishment can take place.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

ANNO REGNI VICESIMO OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Jamaica, ss. No. 4498.

CAP. XVIII.

An Act to authorize the Infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain Cases of Larceny and other Offences.

Whereas the punishment at present authorized by law has proved insufficient to check the increase of larcenies, and especially of the crimes next hereafter and herein specified: Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and by the authority of the same, as follows: Preamble.

First.—The summary jurisdiction conferred upon two or more justices by the Act passed in the twentieth year of Her present Majesty's reign, Chapter Three, shall, in all cases of a charge after a previous conviction of an offence within such jurisdiction, and specially mentioned in this Act, be and it hereby is annulled; and such justices shall take the examination of all witnesses for the prosecution, and if in their opinion a proper case is thereby made out for the consideration of a grand jury, they shall transmit such examinations to the clerk of the peace of the parish in which they act as such justices for further prosecution at the circuit court thereof. Justices jurisdiction under 20th Vict. cap 3, annulled in certain cases, and how they are in future to proceed.

Second.—Upon this Act coming into operation it shall be lawful for, and in the discretion of the judge of any circuit court, in lieu of or in addition to the punishment already authorized by law, to Judge of circuit court may, in addition to other

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punishment, whip offenders, &c.

sentence any male person convicted before him of any of the illegal acts or offences next herein described to be whipped; that is to say,

Offences.

Every second or subsequent conviction for stealing, destroying, or damaging, with intent to steal, any cultivated plant, root, fruit, or other vegetable production used for the food of man or beast, or for medicine, or for distillation of dyeing, or for or in the course of any manufacture, growing in any garden, orchard, or provision ground, whether the same be enclosed or not, or in any cane, coffee, or pimento field, stealing any horse, mare, gelding, or colt, filly, mule, or ass, or any bull, cow, ox, heifer, or calf, or any ram, ewe, sheep, or lamb, pig, or goat, or wilfully killing any of such animals with intent to steal the carcase, skin, or any part thereof, or wilfully maiming any of the said animals, and for any second or subsequent consequent conviction for stealing any domesticated animal, or any animal ordinarily used for human food, or feloniously receiving any such property or animals as aforesaid, knowing them to have been stolen.

Number of stripes to be specified in sentence, &c.

Number of stripes limited.

Third.—Whenever sentence of whipping shall be awarded under this Act, the number of stripes shall be specified by the court in the sentence; provided that no sentence under this Act shall direct or authorize more than twenty-five stripes to be administered to a convict under the age of sixteen years, nor more than fifty stripes to a convict above or of that age.

Place of punishment to be appointed.

Fourth.—The place of punishment shall be appointed by the Governor.

Infliction thereof to be in presence of surgeon of prison, &c.,

who may interpose.

Fifth.—The punishment by this Act additionally or in substitution authorized shall never be inflicted except in the presence of the surgeon of the prison in which the prisoner is at the time confined; and such surgeon is hereby required to attend thereat, or, in his absence, some other duly qualified medical practitioner, who are respectively hereby empowered to interpose, after partial execution of the sentence of whipping, and to direct the postponement of the remainder thereof until such time as the convict may be able to undergo the same.

In district where punishment is to be inflicted, two constables to be present, &c.

Sixth.—There shall also be present at the infliction of every such whipping, or any part thereof, whenever the punishment of whipping is inflicted in the district where the offence has been committed, two constables for the time being, appointed under the "Constabulary and Reward Fund Act," who shall be summoned by any visiting justice of the gaol or prison in which the convict is imprisoned from the district or neighbourhood in which the offence for which the whipping is to be inflicted was committed.

Surgeon to report to the Governor.

Seventh.—The surgeon or medical practitioner present at every such whipping punishment shall, within seven days after every infliction, or any part thereof, furnish a report to the Governor of the state and condition of the convict so punished, and whether the punishment has been fully or partially, and to what extent, inflicted.

Governor may postpone or remit punishment.

Eighth.—The Governor shall, if he think fit under the circumstances of any case, direct a further postponement, or altogether remit the remainder of such punishment, by order to such effect respectively to the superintendent or gaoler, who, and all others whom it may concern, shall be governed thereby accordingly.

Act not to operate till publication of Her Majesty's assent.

Ninth.—This Act shall not come into operation until it shall have received Her Majesty's Royal assent, and such assent shall have been notified by advertisement in the "Jamaica Gazette" by authority.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 18th day of November 1864.
SAML. RENNALLS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Passed the Assembly, this 14th day of February 1865.
CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, Speaker.

I consent, this 15th day of February 1865.
E. EYRE.

Vera copia extr.
HUGH W. AUSTIN, Island Secretary.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 60.)

King's House, March 22, 1865.
(Received April 15, 1865.)
(Answered No. 213, June 1, 1865, page 23.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of "An Act to empower "Justices of the Peace to apprentice persons who shall be respectively under the age of "sixteen, convicted of petty larceny," together with he Island Secretary's summary thereof.

28 Vict. c. 19.
No. 4499.

The Attorney General being seriously ill, I am unable to attach that officer's report.

2. This Act gives to any two justices of the peace power to apprentice for five years, in substitution for all other punishment, any persons under the age of 16 convicted of stealing or of destroying or damaging with intent to steal any property the value whereof shall not exceed 10*s*., and who shall be proven to be leading an idle and vagrant life, not attending any school or being sufficiently under the control of their parents.

3. The object of this enactment is to repress petty larceny, which has increased to a frightful extent during the last few years, and to subsitute the better care and training, which an apprenticeship to a planter or householder may be supposed to give, for the injurious contact with older and hardened offenders, which sending juvenile prisoners to gaol must necessarily occasion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

ANNO REGNI VICESIMO OCTAVO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

Jamaica, ss. No. 4499.

CAP. XIX.

An Act to empower Justices of the Peace to apprentice persons who shall be respectively under the age of sixteen, convicted of petty larceny.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of this Island, and by the authority of the same,

Justices of peace to apprentice any person under sixteen years, convicted of stealing, or of vagrancy, &c.,

First.—That it shall be lawful for any two justices of the peace of this Island, exercising summary jurisdiction, to apprentice to any householder carrying on business or trade, handicraft, mystery, or calling, or to any proprietors of estates, pens, or plantations, as labourers, or to look after live stock, or to families as domestic servants, willing to take them for five years, any person or persons who, being under the age of sixteen years, shall be convicted of stealing, or of destroying, or damaging with intent to steal, any tree, plant, root, fruit, or any other vegetable production growing in any garden, orchard, provision ground, or cane, or coffee, or pimento field, whether enclosed or not, or of the larceny of other articles, or produce, or small stock, the value whereof shall not exceed the sum of ten shillings, and who may be reported and proven, to the satisfaction of such justices, to be leading an idle and vagrant life, not attending any school, or being sufficiently under the control of their parents, such apprenticeship, so soon as entered into, to be in lieu of any punishment or portion of punishment authorized by twenty-seventh Victoria, chapter thirty-three, or any Act amending the same, or in aid thereof.

which apprenticeship is to be in lieu of punishment under any other Act.

Apprentices and their masters subject to provisions of sundry Acts, but consent of parent not necessary to indent nor discharge apprentices. Justices may transfer indentures.

Second.—That the said apprentices and their masters or mistresses shall be subject to the provisions of the Acts seventh George the Fourth, chapter twenty-sixth, sections eighth to twentieth; fourth Victoria, chapter thirtieth, and fifth Victoria, chapter thirty-fifth, except that it shall not be required to obtain the consent of the parents to such apprenticeship, nor as by the fifth section of fourth Victoria, chapter thirtieth, to discharge such apprentice, and direct his other indenture to be cancelled; but, on hearing and determining of any complaint against any master or mistress, it shall be lawful for any two justices to transfer the indenture of such apprentice or apprentices to any other parties who may agree to take him, her, or them for the unexpired time of his, her, or their indentures; and such transfer shall be given under the hand and seal of such justices.

Moral and religious instructi to be given to apprentices.

Third.—That it shall also be required of the masters or mistresses of the said apprentice or apprentices to give him, her, or them, during a part of one day in each week, moral and religious instruction, or to appoint a competent person to do so.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 22nd day of December 1864.
SAML. RENNALLS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Passed the Assembly, this 14th day of February 1865.
CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, Speaker.

I consent, this 15[*th*] day of February 1865.
E. EYRE.

Vera copia extu^r^.
HUGH W. AUSTIN, Island Secretary.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 213.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 1, 1865.

I HAVE had under my consideration two Acts passed by the Legislature of Jamaica, entitled respectively—

No. 4498, c. 18. "An Act to authorize the infliction of corporal punishment in "certain cases of larceny and other offences;" and

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No. 4499, c. 19. "An Act to empower Justices of the Peace to apprentice persons, "who shall be respectively under the age of 16, convicted of petty larceny."

2. I am fully aware that no society can prosper in which effectual protection is not given to honest industry, and I do not object, in the state of circumstances which you describe, to the principles on which these two Acts are founded.

3. Depredators who prevent industrious labourers from reaping the fruits of their labour deserve and are fitly repressed by sharp and disgraceful punishment, and I do not doubt that boys who are falling into such courses are likely to derive substantial benefit from being compelled to earn their living honestly for a reasonable period as apprentices. The punishments, however, of flogging and of compulsory service are in their nature open both to misconstruction and to abuse, especially in a Colony where labour is keenly sought for. I think that both these laws are open to some objection on this ground, and require correction in detail.

4. I am informed that the utmost number of strokes which the law allowed in the later times of slavery was 39; in convict prisons the maximum is 36. And though in one recent English Act (that for the repression of garotting) the infliction of 50 stripes is authorized, I think the number to be administered at any one time for larceny in Jamaica should not exceed the smallest of these numbers, 36. In the case of boys under 16 the maximum should be similarly reduced from 25 to not more than 18.

5. The sentence should also specify the nature of the instrument which is to be used.

6. I shall not be able to advise that Her Majesty's assent shall be given to this Act until these corrections are made.

7. The Indenture Act would enable the justices of the peace to indenture for five years any boy under 16 who may have stolen or damaged a vegetable of the smallest value, if leading an idle and vagrant life, and not sufficiently under the control of his parents; and this indenture may, in some cases, extend nearly to the age of 21. I do not think it proper that any boy, who has a parent living, should, for a first offence, be indentured for more than one year without the consent of the parent under whose charge he is; nor do I think that the apprenticeship can prudently be extended beyond the age of 18, after which age the boy is not likely to submit to compulsory service without a degree of coercion which cannot be properly resorted to.

8. In cases of repeated offences of such a nature as to show formed dishonesty, I think the apprenticeship may be extended to five years, so that it does not extend beyond the age of 18.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 89.) King's House, April 15, 1865.

(Received May 15, 1865.)

(Answered No. 220, June 9, 1865, page 28.)

SIR,

Encl. No. 1. Mr. Gordon to Sec. of State. 24th March 1865.

AT the request of Mr. George William Gordon, I have the honour to transmit a communication addressed by that gentleman to yourself, and complaining of the enactment of certain laws during the late Session, and of the manner in which he alleges the enactment to have been obtained.

2. The laws objected to are an Act authorizing the taking up a loan not exceeding 40,000*l.* for the construction of a slip dock, an Act for re-establishing a prison at Port Maria, and an Act for legalizing the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases.

The two last Acts have already been transmitted to you accompanied by my report. The Slip Dock Act would also have been forwarded by the last packet, but in consequence of the receipt of Mr. Gordon's letter, I thought it better not to send it on until I could also transmit Mr. Gordon's letter, which had been referred to the Executive Committee for their report.

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Encl. No. 2. Remarks by Dr. Hamilton. 5th April 1865.

Remarks by Mr. Westmorland. 5th April 1865.

3. I now enclose two communications on the subject, one from Dr. Hamilton, the member of the Executive Committee, representing the Government in the Legislative Council, the other from Mr. Westmorland, member of the Executive Committee, representing the Government in the Assembly, and under whose immediate auspices the three Acts in question were passed.

4. These documents so fully explain the actual circumstances which took place, and the general grounds upon which the enactments were based, that there is little left for me to add.

The importance of having a slip dock in this part of the world, at which Her Majesty's ships and the many steamers now frequenting Jamaica could be examined and repaired without the delay, expense, and risk of sending them to Europe, can hardly be over-estimated.

Various endeavours have been made to encourage the carrying out of such an undertaking both here and at St. Thomas's by private enterprise, but hitherto without success, and the Legislature of Jamaica, anticipating that great advantages will accrue to the Colony by making it the centre for the resort of vessels of any size up to 3,000 tons, requiring examination and repair, has, I think, wisely authorized a loan being taken up to the amount of 40,000*l.*, with a guaranteed interest of six per cent., for the purpose of carrying out this object.

5. The local Executive is very anxious that the undertaking should be one of national importance and utility; and in transmitting the Act by the present mail, I purpose submitting to Her Majesty's Government that the construction of the dock should be a joint undertaking by the Colony and the Imperial Government, carried out in such a manner as the Admiralty authorities may regard as being most desirable, and constructed under the immediate supervision of some competent engineer to be selected and sent out by the Home Government.

6. The other point raised in Mr. Gordon's letter, relating to the alleged general distress of the peasantry of the country, is fully reported upon in my Despatches relating to Dr. Underhill's letter to you on the same subject.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 16.

Enclosure 1 in No. 16.

Mr. GORDON to the Right Honourable E. CARDWELL, M.P.

SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, March 24, 1865.

I HAVE to bring to your notice, on behalf of the people of this country, the following facts which are submitted as grievances:—The House of Assembly, as at present composed, by reason of the restrictions in the election law (which has this session been amended only to a very limited extent), cannot be said to be a fair representation of popular rights, therefore it becomes more necessary for the mother Government to exercise that vigilance which in former times so greatly tended to the protection of the lately emancipated classes, and it is much to be regretted that such is not continued to be the case; from gross mismanagement, and for wasteful purposes, the taxation of the country is increased without corresponding benefit to the general community. A flagrant illustration of this may be found in the history of the tramroad affair, which, besides having involved the country in a heavy expenditure of money, creating additional taxation, has also, by interfering with the principal public road, caused serious losses of stock to the passengers, and irritating the minds generally of the people who traffic on this thoroughfare. We here find a sample of the ruinous consequences of misconducting public affairs. But ere this is got over, the Governor, in his opening speech, recommends a project for a "slip dock," which work, if at all necessary, is of a speculative nature, and such as a company may be encouraged by the Government to undertake; but certainly it is not for the public to adventure, nor for which the people should be taxed. The Island has no navy which requires such an undertaking, and therefore it can only be considered as a strictly commercial enterprise; how then are the people to be taxed for this purpose? As well may any other company, more necessary and likely of success, be taken up by the Government, such as a "soap manufactory," "a sugar refinery," or an "agricultural bank," a "rail-road to Old Harbour." The great question is, Is it constitutional to tax the people for speculative enterprises, and is the Island prepared to undertake the duties of private companies, and to conduct a "slip dock," with all its contingencies and doubtful results, in the face of absolute expenditure likely to involve, not only a present, but a future, loss and increased taxation upon the people? It is a laid-down principle that no Government is justified in acting in this manner; it is contrary to sound political economy, and its tendency is evil; and yet we find that, even without detailed estimate or statement of annual expenditure and income, the Governor has sanctioned such a measure, which, having been opposed when first introduced into the Assembly, was withdrawn, and subsequently brought forward at the

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end of the session, when the quorum was reduced to nine, and hardly that number being present, and passed as it were to the surprise of the good sense of the country. This is a measure which, if allowed to take effect, will create new heart-burning in the minds of the inhabitants generally, and is a great public wrong. A bill of a most objectionable nature was passed under circumstances similar to those above stated: it is to inflict "corporal punishment" for petty offences; this is a measure unparalleled in the present history of British legislation, and is so degrading and wicked in its tendency as to create feelings of alarm. A public meeting was already held against it in Kingston; a copy of the resolutions I shall send, and I believe other meetings or memorials are intended. The penal clauses of this bill are confined to second convictions; but for what offence, a shrub, root, or plant, in any unenclosed or enclosed land, &c.; it will not be hard in a country like this to find a second offence, which may be of a comparatively innocent nature, tortured for malignant purposes; but while this is intended to operate for minor offences, the greater evils of society, "forgery, burglary, cattle stealing," &c., are all left out; so that this measure is strictly one aimed against the lower classes, who just now are in a state of great destitution; and, honoured Sir, if you could only behold them, I opine that your feelings of compassion would be aroused to mercy and relief, instead of the infliction of corporal punishment, which is death, or next to it. And I fear the indignation which may arise from this evil measure will be such as to leave serious consequences.

2. Representations, unfounded and uncharitable, may be wickedly made against the peasants of this country, but in good truth they are as peaceable, civil, and well-disposed as any people can well be, and their character cannot justly be unfavourably compared with those of the labouring classes of Britain or the continents of Europe or America. What they require is, what has been neglected, attention to their sanitary improvement and education, parochial asylums for orphans and adults, and relief to some extent of excessive taxation on the necessary articles of food and clothing, which in its tendency produces to a great extent that destitution which leads here, as in other countries (to a greater extent), to petty larcenies. These are the points which should have been attended to, but which are lost sight of for the debasing purposes of the whip, as if that will instil principles of morality, or supply the mental and bodily wants of a poor suffering community. I do trust that, after due reflection, you may be led to consider this measure in its odious and injurious light. It seems to me an evil of the greatest magnitude, and shows to what extent inconsiderate feelings still exist in Jamaica; but the manner in which this bill passed the Assembly is discreditable to the Government, as will be seen by the small division on the question, and by which you will perceive it did not pass with the feeling of the country; and the members of the Government, after allowing it to remain on the table of the House for nearly three months, did not give any intimation of its being taken up, but seized upon an opportunity, and in a two hours passed about four bills of a most important nature, at the same time suspending all the rules of the House in order to put them through all their stages within this time; this did not seem to be a creditable proceeding.

3. A bill was also passed on the same occasion, and under similar circumstances, to re-establish a district prison at Port Maria; this bill also provides that hard labour shall include the tread mill, shot drill, and crank. Immediately after the emancipation the "tread mill" was introduced into this Island, but soon it was discovered that its severities and tortures as exercised here were diabolical, and the Governor of this Island, as well as the Colonial Secretary, determined that it should be abolished, and not one was allowed to be used or ever to remain in the prisons, yet we find that after a lapse of thirty years, when we had a right to expect better things, a British Governor sanctioning such a measure.

4. But this said Port Maria is really the grave of Jamaica; during cholera its population was nearly entirely swept away by that disease, and Doctor Milroy, the skilful medical inspector sent out from England by the Government, condemned it above all other places in the Island as the most deathlike and unhealthy, and yet we find that the prison which was abolished is again to be established. It will have the effect, not to reform, but to consign to an early grave its inmates, and especially under the new and consequently destructive system of prison diet now established, with the iron shackles and chains to which the unfortunate prisoners have been consigned by the present Governor, with hard labour. From the injurious atmosphere of "Port Maria," a transfer of patients had frequently to be made to the public hospital of Kingston; from the depreciated state of health to which the prisoners must be reduced at Port Maria, many of them will leave the prison for ever after to be worthless, and a tax on society; and when it is remembered that many are sent to prison for very minor offences, and in many cases wrongfully and under long sentences by erring judgment, malignant and unlearned justices, it does seem that this is a most cruel proceeding.

5. I feel it a bounden duty to bring these subjects to your notice; the consequences I cannot control, but sincerely trust that, notwithstanding any explanation which will no doubt be tendered by the Governor on these remarks, that the facts only of the points may be considered. I have a conscientious assurance that I intend no undue reflection, and I only write from the stern obligation of a sense of justice and common humanity.

I have, &c.

To the Right Hon Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Signed) GEO. W. GORDON.

Minute by the Governor on the above Letter.

The Executive Committee are requested to report upon this for the information of the Secretary of State.

30th March 1865.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 2 in No. 16.

Dr. HAMILTON's Remarks upon Mr. G. W. GORDON's Letter to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. Gordon's general statement is merely a repetition of what he has asserted every session during which he has been a member of the House of Assembly, and his opinions have been considered by that body, and discussed in every way in the several newspapers of the island.

2. Had his complaints that foundation he assumes to exist, they would have met with some support in the House of Assembly, and the public voice would have been heard supporting them in other districts than those in which he may have personal influence.

3. There is therefore reason to believe that Mr. Gordon's opinions are not those held by the great majority of the people of Jamaica.

4. I have read Mr. Westmorland's remarks on Mr. Gordon's letter, and fully concur with his views; to him, as the fittest person, I leave the care of explaining the occurrences in the House of Assembly, and more especially direct my remarks to occurrences in the Legislative Council.

In that body all the measures to which Mr. Gordon objects were approved of, and the bill "to "authorize the infliction of corporal punishment in cases of larceny and other offences" was introduced.

5. That bill was read the first time on the 9th November 1865, committed on the 16th November, and passed on the 18th, thus showing that there was no undue haste in passing it through its different stages, nor improper anxiety to have it passed.

6. On each occasion there was a fair attendance of members, and both the Chief Justice and the Attorney-General of the island were present in their places at the first and second reading, and while the bill was in committee.

7. I entirely agree with Mr. Gordon that, taken as a body, "the peasants of this country are as "peaceable, civil, and well disposed as any people can well be;" and that they may be favourably contrasted with the labouring classes of other countries.

8. It is these well-disposed people who have themselves called for more stringent laws for the protection of their property, and whose demands have found a place in the different addresses presented to his Excellency the Governor during his late visit to the different parishes.

9. Many causes have combined to lessen the moral effect of imprisonment as a punishment, so much so that on many occasions the friends and relatives of persons leaving prison have assembled to fête them on their return home, and too often proprietors and householders find themselves obliged to employ persons who have been in prison more than once or even twice.

10. When in prison, the easy work exacted, ample food, good lodging, and, till within the last few years, the ill-judged though well-intentioned indulgences accorded to convicts, rendered prison life by no means disagreeable, especially to the people of this island, who, like most inhabitants of tropical countries, have a marked capacity for enjoying inaction.

Long terms of imprisonment were the only efficient punishment; such being the case, the late increase of crime demanded a prompt remedy, only to be afforded by measures like the present.

11. It is only necessary to read the Act to perceive the animus of Mr. Gordon's letter and how unfairly he represents it. According to the Act—

1st. The power of inflicting corporal punishment is restricted to the circuit courts; with their elaborate machinery "malignant purposes" cannot affect the accused:

2d. The infliction of punishment; and when inflicted the amount is left to the discretion of the Judge:

3d. The Act specifies the articles for the larceny of which such punishment can be awarded, and these have been carefully enumerated with a view to the habits and requirements of the people.

Had Mr. Gordon looked at the Act he would have found it extended to "cattle stealing," which he states to be exempt, and to other offences of a like nature; yet, while he objects to such "greater evils "of society" not being included in this Act, he still objects to the provisions made to punish them under another Act legalizing the introduction of means of punishment which have been long in use in Great Britain, and which under our present system of Government are not likely to be misused.

(Signed) ROBERT HAMILTON.

Mr. WESTMORLAND's Remarks upon Mr. G. W. GORDON's Letter to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Having already commented upon Mr. Underhill's communication to the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to the present condition of the "lately emancipated classes" in this island, and having had to listen to and sometimes reply to some of the numerous speeches made by Mr. G. W. Gordon in the House of Assembly during the last session of a similar tendency to the contents of his letter of the 24th March, now submitted to the Executive Committee to report upon by his Excellency the Governor, I trust it will be deemed sufficient if I confine my observations to the alleged injurious effect of three measures lately passed by the Assembly, viz., the slip dock, Port Maria gaol, and corporal punishment bill, and the alleged unfair means adopted to get them through the Assembly.

2. During the last 10 years two or three bills have passed the Legislature of this island, and have been left to their operation by the Home Government guaranteeing the interest on sums of money to the extent of 40,000*l.* in the aggregate, to be advanced by private individuals, for the erection of a slip dock in the harbour of Kingston, but no action in this desirable undertaking has been the result. In

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consequence, the Colonial Government last year obtained estimates and specifications from Messrs. Bell and Miller, engineers of Glasgow, one member of which firm had surveyed the harbour some years back for a private company, and they were duly laid before the Assembly last session; the cost was put down, exclusive of expense of site, at 30,000*l.*, and the Legislature passed a bill authorizing 40,000*l.* to be borrowed under certain restrictions for carrying out the work, and upon which subject a communication will shortly be made to the Secretary of State.

3. The erection of a slip dock in these latitudes capable of taking up for repair a vessel of 3,000 tons has long been considered necessary, and as likely to be attended with profitable results. Three or four excellent sites have been surveyed and recommended, and immediately close to them is our penitentiary, with 600 people on an average confined therein, for whom it is difficult to provide labour, and who might be profitably employed in making the slip dock, whilst the Government quarry in the immediate vicinity would supply the stones for the purpose at a very trifling cost. I can see no difference between guaranteeing the interest on the cost of an undertaking of this kind and paying the interest on borrowed money necessary for its erection in a financial point of view, if the undertaking is likely to prove of a profitable nature, and such appears to be the opinion of most people competent to judge, particularly as Jamaica is now largely resorted to by iron steamers, and is on the high road to the new world.

4. Mr. Gordon states what is incorrect when he says the bill was withdrawn and passed by a small number. The Bill was introduced on the 24th November, and a motion to read it a second time that day three months was negatived, 23 to 6; on the 30th November it was read a second time, 24 to 7, and owing to the obstruction by Mr. Gordon and two or three other members it and other measures were retarded in their progress till after the Christmas recess, when members got tired, particularly of Mr. Gordon's frequent speeches, and thin houses prevailed; but the divisions I have alluded to clearly show the opinion of the House as to the desirability of the measure.

5. The Port Maria prison bill was opposed on the motion for its committal, but unsuccessfully, 5 against 17; and it is quite true that the Government took advantage of Mr. Gordon's and another member's absence to get this bill through all its stages, as also that for the infliction of corporal punishment, by suspending the rules, which however could not have been done had one single member present dissented. One portion of Port Maria is unhealthy, but not so that upon which the prison is situated, and it was not abolished for the reason given by Mr. Gordon, but with a view of reducing expense by centralization.

6. The object of the Government in re-establishing this prison, which has been accomplished at little or no cost, was to distribute the labour of the convicts in a part of the island affording abundance of employment on the roads, and to save the police a great deal of labour in escorting prisoners to more distant prisons.

7. The Corporal Punishment bill passed unanimously in the Council, went through a second reading in the Assembly without a division, and was passed by that body in Mr. Gordon's absence. None are more rejoiced at its enactment than the well-to-do black people, whose industry is crippled by the constant thievings of the idle and vicious of their own class.

8. The black people as a whole are well off, contented, and happy, and I am glad to say resist the endeavours and persuasions of political empirics to make them believe they are oppressed, starved, and illtreated.

5th April 1865. (Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

No. 17.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 220.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 9, 1865.

* Page 24. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 89,* of the 15th of April, enclosing a letter addressed to me by Mr. George William Gordon, complaining of the enactment of certain laws during the late session of the Jamaica Legislature; viz., the Act for re-establishing a prison at Port Maria, an Act for the construction of a slip dock, and an Act for legalizing the infliction of corporal punishment.

I request that you will inform Mr. Gordon that I have received and considered his letter. That with regard to the prison at Port Maria, I rely on Mr. Westmorland's statement, that the proposed site is not unwholesome; and that I shall not advise Her Majesty to assent to the Slip Dock Act until the undertaking shall have been fully considered in this country; with respect to the Act for the infliction of corporal punishment you will be at liberty to communicate to Mr. Gordon the substance of my Despatch,

† Page 23. No. 213,† of the 1st of June.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 18. JAMAICA.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P. No. 18.

(No. 90.) King's House, April 19, 1865.

SIR, (Received, 15th May, 1865.)

IN my Despatch No. 40,* of the 2d ultimo, I acknowledged your Despatch No. 150,† of the 27th January last, enclosing a communication from Dr. Underhill on the present condition of Jamaica, and I briefly expressed my opinion that the statements put forward by Dr. Underhill exhibited an exaggerated picture of the state of things existing here as regards the general destitution of the peasantry, supporting this opinion by a letter voluntarily published by a highly respectable Baptist minister in the Colony, the Reverend Samuel Oughton. * Page 7. † Page 3.

I at the same time informed you that I was taking steps which would enable me to furnish you with the fullest and most authentic information.

2. Having addressed a circular to the heads of the different religious denominations, to the judges, to the custodes of parishes, to the Inspector of Prisons, and to some others, I have collected and am still collecting many interesting and valuable reports upon the topics touched upon by Dr. Underhill. Enclosure 1.

3. In my Despatch No. 45,‡ of the 7th March I transmitted a communication from the Bishop of Kingston and another from Mr. Hosack, custos of St. George's and a member of the Executive Committee. ‡ Page 8.

I now transmit various other communications, as noted in the Schedule hereunto attached.

4. The first is a letter from the Bishop of Kingston addressed to yourself, enclosing various reports from the clergy and others. Enclosure 2.

This letter was intended by the Bishop to have been forwarded to you during my temporary absence from the seat of Government; but my Private Secretary very properly withheld it, as no copies existed of the sub-enclosures, and I should therefore have had no opportunity of learning the contents of any of the clerical reports.

5. In collecting and collating opinions from so many different persons, representing various interests and classes, and having reference to numerous localities widely apart from each other, and differing essentially in physical features, climate, and industrial occupations, it was only to be expected that there must be great diversity of opinion and many conflicting statements.

6. Such in reality is the case, but putting aside the variations arising from local or exceptional causes, I think that on the whole there is a large mass of evidence of a tolerably uniform character, establishing several very important inferences.

a. That in consequence of the long-continued low prices of the staple products of the West Indies, and a diminished production occasioned by repeated droughts, all classes and interests have suffered severely, but the pressure has fallen more heavily upon the planter than the labourer, who, for the most part, is independent of employment on estates, or only resorts to it in the intervals when his labour is not required at his own cultivations or when occasional drought compels him to seek for other means of subsistence for a time.

b. That distress does not exist amongst the labouring population to the extent depicted by Dr. Underhill; and that where it does exist it is for the most part limited to a few particular districts or to the larger towns.

c. That, owing to the immense extent of fertile land open to the labourer at a cost of from 1*l.* to 5*l.* per acre, or at a rental of from 10*s.* to 30*s.*, the large proportion of the peasantry are independent of labour on estates, and ought to be, and in many instances are, better off than the peasantry of most other countries.

d. That although the offer of employment on estates varies greatly in the different districts, it is found almost universally that when it is obtainable the labourer can readily earn from 9*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* in from four to six hours work; but invariably refuses to earn, as he easily might, double those amounts by extending his hours of employment; that nowhere will he work on Saturday, and that he invariably takes from two to three weeks holidays in August and again at Christmas. It must also be borne in mind that even when he does work the Creole labourer requires an amount of direction, supervision, and watching unknown in other countries, and detracting greatly from the value of his services; and this remark is equally applicable to the best and most intelligent tradesmen and mechanics as to the mere field labourer.

e. That one great reason of the non-existence of cultivation, and the consequent increased means of employing the people on estates, is to be found in the fact that

whatever amount of labour may exist in the neighbourhood it is not procurable with certainty or continuously; that the very times when the planter would most require the services of his workpeople are the very times best suited for the cultivation of provision grounds, and that therefore the labourer naturally deserts his employer to labour on his own land. In fact he only works upon estates when it suits his own purpose to do so, without any reference to the requirements of his employer.

That on such occasions, and at August and Christmas, when holidays of weeks together are taken by the Creole peasantry, the estates would in many instances be ruined but for the immigrant labour, which supplies the place of the native, and which, however expensive or unsatisfactory in some respects, has at least the advantage of being always available.

f. That as regards clothing the climate is of so genial a nature as to make little necessary, whilst the habit of the people is to go to their work in scanty, ragged, or dirty garments, reserving their finery for Sundays, holidays, markets, or courts, when for the most part they are neatly and respectably, often very expensively clad.

g. That there is consequently no such general starvation and nakedness as is so graphically pictured by Dr. Underhill.

h. It is at the same time undeniable that wages are lower and necessaries dearer than in former years, therefore the mere labourer for hire is necessarily poorer; but not so with those who, cultivating lands for themselves (as the large majority do), are independent of employment by others. They (except in cases where drought or pilfering by their neighbours has rendered their labour abortive) come in for the full benefit of high prices in the sale of their ground provisions, their corn, their coffee, or other products; and even where they have suffered from drought, some of the reports point out that the labourer generally has still sufficient left for himself, and that it is chiefly in the loss of a surplus for sale that he is injured.

Imported goods, especially clothing materials, have been enhanced greatly in price since the commencement of the war in America, but not to the extent depicted by Dr. Underhill. The rise is stated in some of the reports to be from 30 to 100 per cent., and not 200, according to the article or locality, for prices vary considerably in different districts. Mr. Stipendiary Justice Hill expresses a contrary opinion; but I attach greater weight to that of Mr. Custos Royes, as being the more practical man, and having better opportunities of knowing the current prices.

i. That crime, especially larceny, is fearfully on the increase, but that it is not due to want compelling to steal. The young and the strong of both sexes are those who fill the gaols, and they almost universally come in in good condition. The old, the decrepid, or the emaciated are rarely to be met with in a Jamaica prison. Indeed very many convictions occur amongst those who are actually in good employment at the time their crimes are committed.

k. The utter want of principle or moral sense which pervades the mass of the people, the total absence of all parental control or proper training of the children, the incorrigible indolence, apathy, and improvidence of all ages, and the degraded and immoral social existence which they all but universally lead, are quite sufficient to account for any poverty or crime which may exist amongst the peasantry of Jamaica.

7. Of course in any community there is always a certain proportion of pauperism; there are always aged, infirm, or diseased persons who require aid from their friends or from the community; but I do not think these classes are more numerous here than in other countries, except in so far as it is common in this country for relatives to desert and throw upon the parish those members of their family who are unable to support themselves; children thus constantly deserting their own parents when well able to support them, and fathers almost invariably deserting their illegitimate children, leaving them entirely to the mother to support. This latter circumstance of itself adds considerably to pauperism, as the large majority of the children born in Jamaica are illegitimate.

8. The exceptional cases of distress are to be found, first, in the large towns, chiefly amongst persons of all colours, who have seen better days, and especially amongst the female portion of the population, which in this country largely exceeds the men in point of numbers; and, secondly in some particular country districts, where repeated dry seasons, or the pilfering by others, have frustrated the exertion of the labourer. In such cases there are no doubt many instances of extreme poverty and distress, both in reference to food and as regards clothing.

9. That Jamaica generally is in a most unsatisfactory state as regards its moral, social, material, and political interests cannot be denied. Deterioration, decadence, and decay are everywhere noticeable, and the elements which ought to sustain and improve the

national character, and promote the welfare and progress of the country, are gradually disappearing.

Persons of position, education, and influence of the white race are dying off, or leaving the country, and their places are not supplied by any fresh influx of European energy, intelligence, experience, enlightened views and moral principle, qualities which are so esssential as examples to stimulate and influence races, only just emerging from and without such influences likely to fall rapidly back into a state of barbarism.

10. To such an extent have the circumstances of the Colony become changed for the worse, that it has long been very difficult to fill satisfactorily the paid offices which from time to time become vacant. It is still more difficult to fill adequately the honorary offices, such as those of custodes of parishes, justices of the peace, members of boards, &c., &c. And the proceedings of the Legislature during the last 20 years will abundantly show how little able the Colony is to provide a sufficient number of men of position, character, influence, education, experience, ability, and independence to constitute a Legislative Council of 17 members, and a House of Assembly of 47.

All these difficulties are annually increasing, and the natural consequence is, that the management of the affairs of the country becomes vested in persons unequal to or unfitted for the trust devolving upon them.

Apathy, neglect, mis-management, want of consistency, obstruction, and personal or partisan action, necessarily follow, to the serious injury of the best interest of those in the Colony, and to the total destruction of all confidence on the part of those out of it, who otherwise might be induced to embark capital in and endeavour to revive the rapidly decaying agriculture of an island which is naturally one of the finest and most fertile in the world.

11. Where such a state of things exists, and where, with so many natural advantages, the downward tendency continues steadily through a long succession of years, it is evident that there must be something very wrong and defective both in the habits and character of the people and in the political constitution of the country.

The indolence, apathy, improvidence, profligacy, and crime which characterise the mass of the people have already been pointed out.

An opinion equally prevails amongst reflecting men who have the real interest of their adopted country at heart, that so long as the existing form of constitution remains unchanged so long will existing evils continue, and improvement or progress be retarded. There can be no certain, no consistent, no satisfactory legislation where personal feelings and private considerations are so constantly allowed to take the place of a sense of public duty, and a desire to promote the public good.

12. Jamaica is said and generally believed to possess what are called representative institutions, that great bulwark of British liberty and British greatness; but in my Despatch No. 303. of the 19th December last I forwarded a return showing that representation exists in Jamaica but in name; that the whole 47 members of the House of Assembly were returned by 1,457 voters, out of a population which four years ago amounted to 441, 264, and that consequently 436, 807 (with all the subsequent increase) had no voice in returning their so-called representatives.

But I may add also that any extension of the representation would not remedy the evil,—only make matters worse, for the general population of the country are quite unfitted for the exercise of political privileges. As it is, the few electors who now return the members of Assembly are in many of the parishes very corrupt, and only influenced by bribery. At one single election in 1863 (for St. Dorothy's) I am credibly informed that 1,000*l.* were thus expended, and yet only 100 persons voted at the election. In other cases, the negroes are sometimes easily misled by the misrepresentations of political agitators or designing men, and therefore the extension of the representation would only lead to the election of members of Assembly still more unfitted for the position.

13. Many of the communications now forwarded are well worthy of an attentive perusal. They develope many points of great interest and importance, bearing upon the questions raised by Dr. Underhill, and they are very valuable as conveying the opinions and experience of the most able and influential residents in the Colony, both clerical and lay, professional and non-professional.

Amongst these, I would especially refer you to the reports by the Bishop, by the Archdeacons, by the Rev. C. M'Claverty, by the Rev. J. Williams, by the Rev. J. Cork, by the Rev. H. Clarke, by the members of the Executive Committee, by the Chief Justice, by the custos of St. Elizabeth, by the custos of Kingston, by the custos of Westmorland, by the custos of St. Ann's, by the custos of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, by the custos of St. David's, and by Mr. Richard Hill.

Many of the other reports are also very interesting and valuable.

JAMAICA.

14. There is a singular admission in the letter of the Rev. Henry Clarke, a well-known advocate of the labouring classes, earnest and zealous in his endeavours to do good, but holding peculiar opinions in reference to immigration which have more than once been brought under the notice of the Colonial Office. Mr. Clarke asserts that even if wages were higher it would only have the effect of diminishing the number of days on which the labourer would work; and this assertion I believe to be true, and to convey as strongly as words can the character of the Creole labourer, and the difficulty of elevating him. If he can obtain a bare subsistence by little effort or exertion, he will not extend his labours to secure comfort or independence.

Another very important remark made by Mr. Clarke, and valuable from his experience and opportunities of observing, is, that none of the children can or do escape the immoral influences which surround them, and thus the evil state of things now existing is being continually perpetuated.

15. One great cause of existing distress and to some extent of increase of crime is stated to be the "revivals" of 1860–61, encouraged by various ministers of religion, but leading to much profligacy, to the abandonment of cultivation of provision grounds, and subsequently to much stealing.

16. By universal consent it is admitted that those persons who were men or youths at the time of the emancipation are the best and most trustworthy servants now, and that those born since have, as a rule, become idle, vicious, and profligate. Nor could it well be otherwise, considering that the discipline and obedience exacted by the masters in slavery have not been replaced by parental control or the exercise of any other adequate supervision since.

17. With regard to the deductions made by Dr. Underhill in reference to the increase of petty debt summonses, it is asserted in the reports now forwarded that in some districts no such increase has taken place, and that in others it is rather indicative of a litigious spirit than of pecuniary difficulty. Indeed it is stated in some of the reports that the peasantry have no difficulty in producing the money when necessary to pay for summonses or warrants, to employ counsel, or to pay fines. And that although the aggregate amount of deposits in some savings banks have diminished, the number of depositors are more numerous than formerly.

18. But the general nature of the testimony goes, I think, to show that the peasantry as a body have many advantages, and that for the most part they are tolerably well off and in an independent position. The Reverend C. M'Claverty states there is not a single pauper in his district; the Reverend T. T. Orgill that in his district the peasantry will only work four days a week; that nearly all possess freeholds and horses or other stock, and that some of them have within the last twelve months bought 600 acres of land at a cost of 400*l*. The Reverend J. Williams states that in the districts he is acquainted with the labourers will only work three or four days a week, whether on their own lands or on estates. And many other reports bear ample testimony to their well doing and independent position.

In the months of July and August of last year I made a tour round the entire Island, and I everywhere found the labourers apparently well off and contented, and certainly for the most part well dressed. I enclose a copy of the addresses then presented to me, from which much may be gathered of the state of the country and the condition of the people.

19. It can scarcely be necessary for me to refute the mere unsupported assertions of Dr. Underhill, that the peasantry "meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute "a means of support," that there is "unjust taxation of the coloured population," that there is a "refusal of just tribunals," and that there is a "denial of political rights to the "emancipated negroes."

Most of the points are touched upon and disproved by one or other of the reports enclosed; and it may be sufficient for me to remark, that, as already shown, the Island of Jamaica offers to the labourer, in the easy acquisition of land, unusual facilities and encouragement to prosecute a means of support; and that the laws which regulate taxation, tribunals of justice, or political rights, are equally applicable to the white or coloured population as to the emancipated negroes.

20. The speech of Mr. Whitelocke, quoted by Dr. Underhill, was an opposition speech for the purpose of inducing the House of Assembly to withhold additional revenue from his successors in office.

So far, however, from the consumption of imports having decreased on an average, it may safely be affirmed that for the last five years such consumption has steadily increased.

At the same time the labouring classes, by the cultivation of coffee, honey, beeswax, ginger, and other products, have themselves largely added to the value of the general exports of the Colony within the same period.

20. Dr. Underhill asserts that there is a "general decrease of coin in circulation in "Jamaica," and that there is "an exportation of silver which now regularly takes place."

I enclose copies of a letter I caused to be addressed to Mr. T. Gordon, the manager of the only bank in the Island, and of his reply, stating that he "cannot say whether "any or what amount of British silver has been exported from the Island," but, "if any, "the extent cannot be very great," and that "the present amount of British silver in "this Island is far in excess of its requirements as a circulating medium." Vide Schedule Encl. No. 3.

22. That applications for parochial and private relief are more numerous than formerly is traceable in a great measure to the increasing desertion of the aged and infirm by their children or relatives, although such relatives are generally well able to support them.

I append an approximate statement in round numbers of the very large sums paid by the Colony for services of a charitable nature, for providing schools, for religious instruction, for the protection of life and property, and for the punishment of crime; from all which outlay the peasantry, who constitute the mass of the population, necessarily receive their full share of advantage; whilst they have no direct taxes to pay, except on substantial property, such as the possession of houses above the annual value of 12*l.*, animals, vehicles, or land, or upon certain produce if exported; but all these charges are comparatively light. It is abundantly proved by the reports that they do largely possess horses and other animals, carts and lands; and it is further shown for the most part that they manage to depasture their animals free of cost upon the lands of the larger proprietors, and that where they buy or rent one acre of land they occupy or cultivate three or four more, and in many cases actually sublet lands which do not in any way belong to themselves. They are equally ready to endeavour to evade the taxes, and very often succeed. The only other taxation to which the peasantry are subject is of an indirect kind, through duties levied on imports, and this indirect taxation is less felt and less thought of than the more direct, to which they have very great objection. Vide Schedule Encl. No. 3.

23. Whilst the reports generally concur in pointing out the sad state of things existing in the Colony, from the ignorance, idleness, vice, superstition, and crime which so universally prevail, they do not so clearly indicate any practical remedial measures.

The chief cause of all this evil, the very "fons et origo mali," is undoubtedly the total want of parental control and proper discipline over their children, the absence of any suitable early training, and the constant presence of evil example and influence, both in their own homes and amongst those who surround them.

Vast sums have been expended since emancipation in schools and in affording religious instruction by different religious denominations. Great exertions have been made by able, zealous, and good men; but it must be confessed that all—if not a lamentable failure so far as general results are concerned—has miserably fallen short of what might reasonably have been hoped for; and that the youth of the present generation are more idle, more immoral, more wanting in anything like principle, and more vicious than at the time of emancipation, and thus the labours, the sacrifices, and the expenditure of 27 years have been comparatively thrown away.

The reports now sent, the records of the courts of justice, and the state of the gaols throughout the Colony, amply testify to this unsatisfactory result.

24. The difficulties in the way of effecting any radical change in the habits and character of such a people are very great. The all but universal system of concubinage from earliest puberty would have to be broken through. The occupation of small huts by numerous persons of all ages and sexes would have to be changed for a social life more conducive to decency and morality. Fathers would have to be compelled to provide for their illegitimate children, and relations for the aged, sick, or infirm of their families. Habits of industry, perseverance, prudence, and forethought would have to be inculcated; and indeed the very first principles of right and wrong would have to be impressed upon a people who at present attach neither disgrace nor discredit to an infraction of any of the Commandments of the Decalogue.

So long as the existing evil influences to which children are subjected from their earliest infancy continue to prevail, so long must the efforts of the schoolmaster or the minister be paralysed or frustrated.

25. Many of the reports recommend a bastardy law, and I believe it would be extremely useful, but hitherto it has been found impracticable to get such a law enacted, on the alleged ground that the females of the country are so abandoned that they would swear children to any persons for the purpose of extorting money. I do not think this consideration ought to weigh, because the courts would always, in giving their decision, take into consideration collateral circumstances and probabilities as well as the woman's oath. The real difficulty is, I fear, to be found in the fact that many of those who would be called upon to pass the law would themselves justly come under its operation.

26. With such impediments in the way, and in the present political state of Jamaica, it is difficult to obtain suitable, consistent, or continuous legislation, calculated to check and eventually mitigate the evils which exist.

Nor indeed is the Colony in a position financially to provide to the extent required many important advantages which the people greatly need, such as the establishment of medical men in the rural districts, the appointment of paid justices to hold courts with certainty and regularity, the improvement of the mountain roads, the extension of education, &c., &c.

27. Above all, too, is wanting the influence, example, teaching, and advice of an educated, enterprising, and moral proprietary body, interspersed amongst the scattered rural population, now too often far removed from any such influence, and utterly isolated from any constant or useful intercourse with any but those of their own class, characteristics, and habits. In the existing deteriorated state of Jamaica property, I see no prospect of this desideratum being ever supplied; and I have already pointed out that, so far from this being the case at present, the comparatively few white persons of position and influence now in the country are yearly diminishing in number.

And yet Jamaica is one of the finest and most fertile islands in the world, possessing great natural advantages, abundant resources and means of prosperity, and only requiring industry, enterprise, perseverance, skill, and capital to develope them.

28. One other point I feel it right to touch upon in connexion with Dr. Underhill's communication. The Baptists are the most numerous denomination in the Island, next to the Church of England. The latter is paid by the State; the former chiefly dependent upon contributions from their congregations. Considering all the evidence of increasing irreligion, immorality, and crime, I can quite understand that these contributions may have considerably fallen off, rather from a growing disinclination to pay than from absolute poverty. But be this as it may an agitation has for some time past been occasionally raised in some parts of the Colony, through the medium of the press, against the Church of England as an adjunct to the State. And the tendency of Dr. Underhill's communication would be to prove, first, that the people are poor and overtaxed; secondly, that a large proportion of the taxation goes to support the Church of England; and, thirdly, that it would relieve the poor overtaxed people, and place all denominations on a par, to do away with the State support.

This position certainly is not assumed by Dr. Underhill, but it is the inevitable demonstration to which his communication tends.

29. I append some extracts from and comments upon a book published by Dr. Underhill after his visit to the West Indies in 1861, but I have not myself seen the work.

The tenor of these remarks is to show that when on the spot Dr. Underhill imbibed very similar impressions with regard to the position, character, and conduct of the peasantry of Jamaica to those expressed in many of the reports now forwarded.

30. Many of the custodes and many of the heads of religious denominations have not yet sent in their reports.

I do not think it right to delay any longer forwarding my own report until these reach me, but will transmit them separately as soon as practicable after they come in.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Since closing this Despatch I have received and now forward communications from Archdeacon Rowe, from the Rev. J. Hepburn, Island curate, from the Rev. Dupeyron, Vicar Apostolic, from the Rev. R. Millard, Secretary to the Jamaica Baptist Union, from H. B. Shaw, Esq., Inspector of Prisons, and from the Rev. Dr. Radcliffe, head of the Established Church of Scotland. They do not, however, make any further comment from me necessary. I also transmit a report which I called for from Mr. Shaw in reference to some very extraordinary statements made in Mr. Richard Hill's letter of the 15th March, the first and only occasion on which he has made any such communication to the Government, though it was clearly his duty, as a stipendiary justice paid by the Crown, to have brought the circumstances to which he refers to the notice of the Executive as soon as ever he was led to form the opinion that grounds existed for the statements which he has now put forward. It will be seen that Mr. Shaw gives a distinct and unqualified denial to the assertions made by Mr. Hill relative to the prisoners clothing being made of a material that will not wash, and to their being overrun with vermin.

22d April 1865. E. E.

SCHEDULE of ENCLOSURES in JAMAICA DESPATCH No. 90. of the 19th April 1865. JAMAICA.

Enclosure No. 1.

Circular to Heads of Religious Denominations, 13th March 1865.

Enclosure No. 2.

The Bishop of Kingston to Right Honourable E. Cardwell, 9th March 1865.

Sub-Enclosures in Bishop's Letter.

Copy of Queries addressed by Bishop to Clergy.
Archdeacon Stewart to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. C. M'Claverty to Bishop, 8th March 1865.
The Rev. H. Clarke to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. Jos. Williams to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. T. T. Orgill to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
Archdeacon Rowe to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. Josias Cork to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. G. W. Downer to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
Mr. T. N. Garriques to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. J. Campbell to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. C. R. Chandler to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. S. Cooke to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. J. G. Richards to Bishop.
The Rev. H. P. C. Melville to Bishop.
The Rev. Wm. Shearn to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. C. M. Magnan to Bishop, 4th March 1865.
The Rev. D. R. Morris to Bishop, 14th March 1865.
*The Rev. M. W. Hime to Bishop.
The Rev. Charles Angell to Bishop.
Mr. Harvey to the Rev. T. Garrett (enclosed in letter to the Bishop), 7th March 1865.
Mr. W. M. Anderson to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. H. Scotland to Bishop.
The Rev. R. B. Lynch to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. J. S. Ramson to Bishop, 4th March 1865.
The Rev. George F. Braine to Bishop.
Mr. Cooke to Rev. W. H. Ingles (enclosed in letter to Bishop), 4th March 1865.
Mr. T. P. Williams to Rev. T. Garrett (enclosed in letter to Bishop), 7th March 1865.
The Rev. W. N. Bourke to Bishop, 2d March 1865.
The Rev. H. J. Davidson to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. H. Isaacs to Bishop.
The Rev. V. Herschell to Bishop.
The Rev. C. H. Hall to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. William Forbes to Bishop.
The Rev. H. Brown to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. William Smith to Bishop.
The Rev. John Smith to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. J. S. Farquharson to Bishop.
The Rev. George Hall to Bishop.
The Rev. J. S. Wood to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. J. H. Hilderbrand to Bishop, 9th March 1865.
*The Rev. M. W. Hime to Bishop, 14th March 1865.
The Rev. J. C. Stone to Bishop.
Mr. Solomon to Bishop.
The Rev. T. J. Brown to Rev. H. Webbe, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. T. J. Brown to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
The Rev. J. A. Davidson to Bishop, 6th March 1865.
Mr. Sharpe (enclosed in letter to Bishop).
The Rev. D. H. Campbell to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. D. R. Littlejohn to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Rev. Thomas Garrett to Bishop, 7th March 1865.
The Bishop of Kingston to Governor Eyre, 25th March 1865.

Enclosure No. 3.

Circular addressed to Custodes by Government Secretary, 13th March 1865.
Mr. Westmorland's remarks, 10th March 1865.
The Hon. Sir B. Edwards to Governor Eyre, 31st March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Salmon to Governor Eyre, 28th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Bowerbank to Mr. Austin, 15th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Vickers to Mr. Austin, 20th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Royes to Mr. Austin, 31st March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Rennalls to Mr. Austin, 23d March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Georges to Mr. Austin, 27th March 1865.
The Hon. Richard Hill to Mr. Austin, 15th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Lowe to Mr. Austin, 20th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Lindo to Mr. Austin, 20th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos M'Kinnon to Mr. Austin, 17th March 1865.
The Hon. Custos Hollingsworth to Mr. Austin, 26th March 1865.
Mr. Justice Cargill to Mr. Austin, 15th April 1865.
Mr. Harrison to Mr. Austin, 20th March 1865.
Mr. Thoburn's Remarks, 23d March 1865.
The Superintendent of Wesleyan Methodist Association to Mr. Austin, 6th April 1865.
Police Magistrate of Kingston's Report for 1864.
Petition from Lecruse Scott to Governor Eyre.
Addresses presented by Inhabitants to Governor Eyre in 1864.
Principal Officers of Customs to Mr. Austin, 15th April 1865.
Return showing the Imports of Principal Articles of Consumption for last five years.
Mr. Austin to Mr. Gordon, 22d March 1865.
Mr. Gordon to Mr. Austin, 30th March 1865.
Memorandum of Expenditure on account of hospitals, paupers, charitable institutions, &c.
The Bishop to Governor Eyre, March 1865.
Extracts from and comments upon Book published by Dr. Underhill.
Archdeacon Rowe to Governor Eyre.
The Rev. J. K. Hepburne to Mr. Austin, 21st April 1865.
The Right Rev. A. Dupeyron to Mr. Austin, 20th April 1865.
The Rev. Mr. Millard to Mr. Austin, 21st April 1865.
The Rev. J. Radcliffe to Colonel Hunt, 20th April 1865.
Mr. Shaw to Mr. Austin, 20th April 1865.
The Rev. J. Edmonson to Mr. Austin, 20th April 1865.

JAMAICA.

Encl. 1 in No. 18.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 18.

CIRCULAR TO HEADS OF RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

REVEREND SIR, Governor Secretary's Office, March 13, 1865.

I AM directed by the Governor to transmit to you a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with a copy of a communication enclosed in it from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population.

2. His Excellency will be obliged by your favouring him, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, with your opinion as to how far the remarks contained in Dr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring classes of the districts in which the ministers of your denomination labour; and he would be glad to learn from you whether the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work has varied much in those districts during the last few years (stating what the daily pay is now); whether the prices of ground provisions have risen greatly within the same period, or are unusually high now; if work is less easily obtained, or less remunerated than in former years; and whether the peasantry generally are less well off, or less decently clad now, than heretofore.

3. The Governor would be glad to learn also your views as to the causes of any distress which may exist, or of the great increase of the crime of larceny, together with any other observations which the subjects touched upon in Dr. Underhill's letter may suggest, or your own local experience enable you to offer.

4. I am to add that his Excellency will be much obliged by your furnishing your reply at as early a date as you conveniently can, and in duplicate, as one copy has to be transmitted to the Secretary of State.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUGH W. AUSTIN,
Government Secretary.

Encl. 2 in No. 18.

Enclosure 2 in No. 18.

The Bishop of KINGSTON to the Right Hon. E. CARDWELL.

SIR, Spanish Town, Jamaica, March 9, 1865.

THE Governor of Jamaica being absent from Spanish Town, which he left yesterday at noon, before my arrival, I believe I shall best consult your wishes and convenience by forwarding direct to the Colonial Office this letter, and the rather voluminous documents which accompany it, instead of waiting for the mail a fortnight hence, and meanwhile addressing myself to the Governor.

I received from his Excellency a copy of a letter addressed to you as Chief Secretary of the Colonies by Dr. Underhill, on which he was desired by you to report, with a request that I would furnish him with my views on the subject to which it relates. I had already done so; and it is possible that a copy of my letter may be forwarded to the Colonial Office.

Being desirous, however, of giving the Governor the fullest possible information, I issued a circular addressed to such of the clergy as I knew to be most competent to give an opinion, containing certain questions on the subject of the alleged distress. I enclose a copy of the circular. You will see that I give no information as to the particular purpose for which it was asked for, and put no leading questions.

They are divided by me into three classes:—

1. Those which more or less materially differ.
2. Those which corroborate the views which I expressed in my letter to the Governor.
3. Those which, whatever their tendency, are written by laymen who have volunteered to give information.

Amongst the answers of the clergy I would venture to specify three, not to presume to trouble you with more, which deserve special attention, those of Archdeacon Stewart, of the Rev. Colin M'Claverty, and the Rev. Henry Clarke.

I would respectfully request that these answers may be returned to me. I have only had time for a very cursory perusal of them, and shall value them very highly.

On the whole they furnish a most complete corroboration to the statements in my letter to the Governor.

They all but universally ascribe the increase of petty larceny, not to poverty, but to vice and idleness.

They urge the importance of more stringent measures for the punishment of this crime, for more effective police, for reformatories, for industrial schools.

And some of them recommend a reconstruction of our legislative body.

I have, &c.
(Signed) REGINALD KINGSTON.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell,
&c. &c. &c

QUERIES ADDRESSED BY BISHOP TO CLERGY.

1. Is there much or any distress among the labouring classes in your neighbourhood, through want of the common necessaries of life, of food and clothing?
2. Not taking into account the drought which now prevails, do you consider the people poorer than they were three or four years ago?
3. Do the people generally clothe themselves decently; do you ascribe such raggedness of clothing as you have witnessed to poverty; if not, to what cause?
4. Do you attribute the recent increase of petty larceny to increasing distress; or, if not, to what causes chiefly?

5. What do you consider to be, as between employer and employed, a fair rate of remuneration for ordinary field labour?
6. Can the people get employment at such wages?
7. Do they seek such employment when open to them; if not, why not?
8. Do you anticipate an increasing want of the necessaries of life amongst the people generally in future years, if our laws remain as at present?
9. Do you conceive that the present state of the people could be materially improved by better legislation?

ANSWERS TO QUERIES BY BISHOP.

Archdeacon Stewart.

1. In my district and neighbourhood I do not find any distress among the labouring classes through want of the common necessaries of life, of food, and clothing. Now and then application is made to me for relief by some few white women and their descendants, who have been camp followers. They have always been relieved. There are some aged and other poor persons, as must be expected in all countries. They are assisted by alms and parochial funds. I live near the city of Kingston, and have been the rector for many years there previous to my appointment to this incumbency, and there I know that there are lazy idle persons who will not go into the country either to till land out of cultivation or to do anything else in the way of house labour.

2. I have no reason to consider the labouring class poorer than they were three or four years ago. As a body I think them better off than the peasantry of most other countries.

3. I reside close over the public road leading into Kingston; the labouring classes daily pass along this road to and from the city, but I have not seen any of them indecently clad. While working for pay, or in the cultivation of their provision grounds, they invariably put on their worst clothing. They are then loosely but not indecently clad, which is explained when the excessive heat of a tropical sun is taken into consideration. The East Indian labourer, coolie, is a vast deal more indecently clad, and that at all times. I have seen them in my travels totally naked, except a twisted loin cloth under and about their hips.

On Sunday and other holidays the labouring class invariably appear well dressed, and I should say expensively. On a recent occasion I appealed to them on behalf of the "Jamaica Home and Foreign Missionary Society." There were between 600 and 700 labourers and artificers in and about the church, and they contributed liberally. Their very respectable appearance,—and in very many instances expensive attire, viz., the women and girls of 18 or 19 with crinoline, chip straw hats trimmed with ribbons and artificial flowers, and the men with neat jackets, and many in the ordinary dress of a gentleman of the upper class,—attracted the notice of Europeans who happened to be present. Raggedness is seen in the towns only; it is attributable there, not to poverty, but to laziness, and to a determination not to seek work in the rural districts.

There is very great poverty and keen distress in Kingston and the other towns of Jamaica among the old white and coloured families who lived some years ago in respectability and comfort.

The lepers,—they are numerous in Kingston,—present a very ragged and distressing appearance, and are extremely loathsome to passers by. This appears to be attributable to the want of a proper asylum for them.

4. I do not attribute the recent increase of petty larceny to increasing distress. I attribute it, among some, to their unwillingness to labour honestly for their daily bread, and for supplying means to satisfy their profligacy, and, among others, to the absence of all principle. It is not uncommon of late for decently clothed labouring women from the country to purloin articles in the shops of Kingston while pretending to purchase, and to conceal such articles under their dress. Some have been detected with the articles so concealed. The lazy and unprincipled constantly stealing the provisions of the industrious, and to such an excess that many have given up the cultivation of their grounds.

5. When it is remembered that in such a tropical climate as that of Jamaica the labourer in the rural districts has neither to purchase fuel nor water, and that he takes generally what fruit he likes on the property, and on the sugar estates, the cane, I think a shilling a day, if properly worked out, a very fair remuneration for ordinary labour for the men,—more, indeed, under relative circumstances, than is received generally, I believe, by the field labourer in Great Britain.

6. I believe they can, and by job work considerably more. I know that in my neighbourhood they demur at 1*s.* 3*d.* per day, and hold out for 1*s.* 6*d.*

They make good returns by carrying loads to the cantonments at New Castle and to the residences in the neighbouring mountains.

7. They seek employment when it suits them. In the mango season they scarcely look for any employment; that fruit abounds in the neighbourhood and almost all over Jamaica, and it forms a large item of their food. Here they barter it for articles in Kingston. They are then, as a body, careless of labour, except, as is reasonable, during the time of cultivating their own provision grounds.

8 and 9. Perhaps the best answer I can give to Nos. 8. and 9. is to call attention to the statement recently made to me officially by one of the clergy in my archdeaconry, the Rev. David B. Panton, M.A. Cantab. This excellent clergyman is the son of my predecessor in office, the late Venerable Archdeacon Panton, D.D.

"It cannot fail to be pleasing to the Government to know that the peasantry of the mountains of the parish of St. George are yearly becoming more wealthy. Each year more land is cleared for the cultivation of coffee, sugar, arrowroot, &c.

"The peasantry here are as thriving as it is possible for any peasantry to be.

"No people in the world can thank God for more blessings, easier bread, or lighter taxation."

To this I will add, that in my neighbourhood, the Grove in St. Andrew, there are either freeholders, or those who hire land by the acre at a very trifling cost per annum, and who work provisions, sugar, arrowroot, coffee, &c.

Many of them make money by supplying a large quantity of guinea grass to the city of Kingston, and to the keepers of horses in our neighbourhood, cut from grass lands in the hills. For a long time I have myself been paying to one of these labourers 10*s.* 6*d.* and sometimes 15*s.* per week for grass.

(Signed) Thos. Stewart, D.D.,
March 7, 1865. Incumbent of the Grove Church, and
Archdeacon of Surrey, Jamaica.

The Reverend C. M'Claverty.

1. None whatever.
2. By no means. Many have purchased and are still purchasing lands on which to build cottages and settle.
3. They generally clothe themselves decently and often expensively. Poverty may be said not to exist in my district; there not being a pauper in the parish.
4. Cases of larceny seldom if ever occur in my district. There is no such thing as distress in the sense here meant, the old, infirm, and sickly being supported by their families, friends, or alms from the church and private hands.
5. The current rates existing in my district are, I think, four; viz., 1*s.* 3*d.* per day for able-bodied men, 1*s.* for women and lads, and 9*d.* to 6*d.* for boys and girls. The day is counted from about 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., with an hour allowed for breakfast.
6. Always; but the steadily industrious prefer and can always obtain job-work at which they can make double, or more than the current rate of day wages.
7. Such employment is always open to them on the coffee plantation, and they generally avail of it, except when engaged in planting and cultivating their own lands or grounds, on which they spend much of their time; more indeed than sometimes suits plantation requirements.
8. Not in my district, but which I understand may be considered an exceptional case, owing to the high market rates for our fine mountain coffee, which enables good rates to be paid for labour, and regular and punctual settlements for same.
9. I consider that improvement generally could be best effected by State enactments, and the consequent expenditure met by indirect taxation, say on lands per acre annually in cultivation, especially where little or nothing is contributed in the shape of taxes or stock, and export duty on rum consumed, fineries, and all luxuries which the people will work extra to procure if they set their minds upon having them. Their principal requirements now are for medical aid and medicines, and schooling and good roads, all directly and absolutely free, as they are most unwilling to give directly for all such, but they do not feel or kick against taxation when indirect.

(Signed) Colin M'Claverty, M.A.,
8th March 1865. Incumbent of St. Peter's Church, St. Andrew's, and District attached in St. Andrew's and St. George's, and Ecclesiastical Parish of Dallas in the Civil Parish of Port Royal, Clifton Parsonage, St. Andrew's, and proprietor of Clydesdale Coffee Plantation, Port Royal Mountains, and Claverty Cottage, Parish of St. George.

The Reverend H. Clarke.

Replies to Questions in a Circular Letter from the Lord Bishop of Kingston, for the purpose of a Report desired by the Chief Secretary of State for the Colonies, by the Reverend H. Clarke, Island Curate of Trinity, Westmoreland.

1. The labouring classes of this district are in a distressing state of poverty. The able-bodied who can engage in field labour may obtain a bare subsistence; but the aged, the sickly, and all who cannot do out-door work, are in the greatest need, so much so that it is a mystery to me how they manage to exist at all. There is a large number of single women of the coloured class who are dependent on their needle for a living, and these now complain that on account of the poverty of the labourers their occupation is gone, or that if they get sewing to do they cannot get paid for it. The want of proper house accommodation is perhaps as urgent a need as that of food and clothing. Every hut is crowded with old and young of both sexes, and most of them are in a delapidated condition.

There is great distress among women whose husbands or paramours have deserted them and their children on account of there being no law in this Island to compel men to support their own children. The majority of the bastard infants now disappear, and as there is no compulsory registration of births and deaths in this Island, I find it difficult to ascertain when or how they are disposed of. There are in this district 60 aged and diseased paupers receiving one shilling a week from public and private funds combined, and as this is quite inadequate to their maintenance, those who do not get additional help from their neighbours die of slow starvation. During the past two years the withdrawals have exceeded the deposits in our savings bank, the attendance at my day and Sunday schools has largely decreased, and marriages have all but ceased.

2. The people must be poorer because wages are lower and the price of all the necessaries of life much higher than they were three or four years ago. The disease of the cocoa root, which has destroyed one of their principal articles of food, has greatly added to the existing distress.

3. The people generally are clothed in rags, and in many instances children and coolies go without clothing of any kind. I have lately seen labourers dressed in rice bags. The reason they themselves give is, that clothing is so dear and wages so small.

4. There can be no doubt that the increase of petty larceny is attributable to the increase in the number of persons who have not enough to eat. None but persons in that condition would trouble themselves to steal growing produce.

5. This depends entirely on the value of the article produced by the labour. The relation between employer and employed in Jamaica is peculiar because they are engaged in producing an article not for their own consumption, but for that of the people of England, and they have no alternative but to take in exchange for it whatever the people of England may be able or willing to give them, and of course they will not give more than they give for the stolen article supplied by the slave owners of Cuba; so that, in fact, in order to sell his sugar at the same price the Jamaica planter cannot give more to his labourers than the Cuban planter gives to his slaves. In calculating the fair rate of remuneration for the labourer we must consider, not the amount of money, but the quantity of food and raiment which he can buy with that money. If, instead of our planters producing sugar, they produced such articles as their labourers required for immediate consumption, they could afford to sell them those articles at half the price they pay for them after they have been imported from England or America in exchange for exported sugar; therefore the real value of money to the labourer who has to purchase imported articles is not nearly so great as it would be if he could purchase home productions, because he has to pay all the costs of exportation and importation.

We will suppose a labourer working on a sugar estate at one shilling a day, five days a week, the year round. His wages would come to 12*l.* 10*s.*, which would give him a claim on his employer for say one hogshead of sugar, and as he requires flour, rice, fish, pork, clothing, &c., and as none of these articles are produced in Jamaica, he has no alternative but to export his sugar. This necessitates a cask to put it in, and the cooper takes a part of the sugar for his trouble; then the carmen, the wharfinger, the shipowner, the insurer, the dock company, and the commission agent, must all help themselves out of it for their services, so that by the time it is safe in England its value, to the owner, has considerably diminished. And now he wishes to exchange what is left of it for food, but England has no food to spare, so the only way to do it is to exchange it for manufactures, ship them to America, and there re-exchange them for food, and forward that to Jamaica; during the whole of which process the original value of the hogshead of sugar rapidly dwindles until, by the time it reaches the shores of Jamaica again, it has become very small indeed, and then it is our Government pounces upon it, and takes 12½ per cent., so that when the flour, fish, rice, &c. which the labourer gets in return for his 12*l.* 10*s.* worth of sugar comes to hand, he must feel that he has not got an equivalent for his year's labour. The fact that this process is carried on wholesale by the merchant does not alter the result to the labourer.

I attribute the wide spread poverty which exists among the people of my district to the fact that the landowners and labourers are occupied exclusively on producing an article which they cannot use themselves, and of which they cannot get an equivalent from others.

It may be said of the Jamaica labourers, "vos non vobis mellificatis apes."

6. The highest rate of wages here is one shilling a day, which is certainly insufficient to feed and clothe a labouring man himself, without considering wife or children. I have several times heard overseers say that they could not employ all the labourers who applied to them for work.

7. The people seek employment even at the present rate of wages, many of them travelling a long distance from their own homes to the estates. When the main roads were being reconstructed a few years ago the wages given were rather higher than on the estates, and any number of labourers was attainable. The majority of the people are however as idle, careless, and improvident as people of their low moral and physical condition usually are, and I believe that with very many of them higher wages would only have the effect of causing them to work fewer days. The young men and women are especially idle and depraved. As children they are under no proper parental restraint, but are exposed to the worst influences from their earliest years. It is impossible to get them to school even if no charge is made, as their parents can get threepence a day each for them for drying trash on the estates. As soon as they are old enough they leave their parents, and go to work for themselves on the estates, where they get associated with the vile characters who abound there, and are ruined at once both in body and soul.

I believe that none of the children do or can escape the contagion of the immoral influences by which they are always and everywhere surrounded.

8. The existing system of high duties on the barest necessaries of life, and of taxes on the means of production and individual comfort, such as horses, mules, asses, wheels, canoes, and houses, is directly calculated to starve the people, to check consumption, and strangle production, and must result in reducing all classes of the community to poverty. I do not like to anticipate what our condition would be in the event of our supplies from America being stopped by a war with England.

9. I conceive that it is the blessing of the Lord alone which can make any people really rich, and I attribute all the sufferings and misfortunes of the people of this Island to their great wickedness. It appears to me only in accordance with God's word that some terrible judgment should come on the governing class of this land for the oppressions, the robberies, and the murders they have committed on the poor strangers whom they have deluded to this Island under the name of immigrants. I also consider that the decided refusal of the House of Assembly to pass a law for the support of the bastard children, lest they should thereby put a restraint on the male perpetrators of the sin which produces bastard children, was an open and wilful defiance of God and his commandment, and is calculated to draw down a signal display of His wrath. Let the Government of this country inflict the same penalties on the breach of any of the Ten Commandments, which they now inflict on the slightest breach of the Eighth; let them be as zealous of God's honour and the people's happiness as they are of their own gains, and prosperity will soon smile on the land; but at present the words of the prophet are applicable. "The Lord has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because "there is no truth, nor mercy: nor knowledge of God in the land. By lying, and swearing, and "killing and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood: Therefore "shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish with the beasts of the field "and with the fowls of heaven. Yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away."

Grange Hill, P.O., 6th March 1865. (Signed) HENRY CLARKE, Island Curate.

JAMAICA.

Rev. Jos. WILLIAMS, Rector, Spanish Town, March 7.

1. I have had more experience in an agricultural than in a town district, where I am residing now, but in both cases I should say that distress among the labouring classes through want of the common necessaries of life,—of food and clothing,—is very prevalent. For, subject as all mankind in every country are to disease and the common ills of life, there must needs be much distress where through idleness, improvidence, licentiousness, and pride of life no provision is ever made against it. The characteristic of the Jamaica labourer is not to work for more than a daily supply, and to prefer to live "from hand to mouth" (as the saying is), to earning, when he, through industry could, a double or treble amount of means for his own and family's support. The labouring man in civilized lands will work oftentimes his eight or nine days in the week. The peasant in Jamaica wont work more than his three or four. This I know to be substantially a fact, whether the labourer be a small settler (one working on his own account), or an employé on an estate.

2. I think there is pretty nearly the same amount of poverty and distress now that there was three or four years ago. The spurious revival that prevailed throughout the country in 1860–61 may have contributed somewhat to its increase, in consequence of the moral evils above enumerated, as the cause of poverty and distress having more abounded during those years.

The drought has no doubt contributed, though to no very great extent, to increase a distress, which, if industry had prevailed, could never have existed at all in this fertile land, and which could now be altogether remedied if the peasantry would exert themselves as a body. No doubt the occupation of some of the labouring classes has been gradually failing throughout the country, because respectable families have been diminishing in number; but still senseless pride, in numerous cases, hinders females from becoming or continuing for any length of time domestics. And where estates have been thrown out of cultivation, the labourers can have recourse to the cultivation of the land on his own account.

No disgrace being attached by the labourer to the penitentiary ordeal, as well as because confinement there is an advantageous condition when compared to that the idler is in when without its walls, acts of larceny are generally resorted to as a convenient and preferable mode of supplying the demands of nature to labour.

3. If we could eradicate the fondness for "making an appearance" in the matter of dress in certain classes and persons, the whole Island would be one sink of abomination. The shame attendant on not being able to "make an appearance" keeps very many from providing that creditable or decent clothing that in other countries the industrious amongst the lower classes are contented with, seeking nothing beyond it. For dress many will work, and their every day raggedness is attributable to the gratification of their vanity on this head. It is far, very far from being an uncommon thing to find individuals and members of a family which is supported by alms coming to church in a style which would apparently betray anything rather than poverty. The raggedness of clothing which is often witnessed is owing then, not to commiserable poverty, but to pride, yet to a pride which, if it existed not, idleness and beggary would increase. A stranger coming to the country, and forming his judgment of the people by their appearance, for instance, in our churches, would be greatly misled on the subject of their moral and social condition.

4. This question is answered in the above replies.

5. The negro is so capricious in his mode of labour, that it is impossible to fix on any particular sum as a fair rate of remuneration between employer and employed as to ordlinary field labour. The standard has not been settled here, as in European countries, for above reasons, so job work is generally adopted on estates in lieu of day labour. On this plan a labourer could, if he chose, and he ought, to earn 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* per diem, but in most cases he seldom cares for more than 9*d.* or 1*s.*, or does work not worth more than this sum for his employer.

6. As I know for a certainty that many estates could not be carried on throughout the country were it not for the coolies and other emigrants, I must attribute a want of employment to the fault of the creole labourer. And if there are districts where no employment can be procured by the labourer, there are more where it cannot be obtained by an employer.*

7. This question also answered in above replies.

8. Where vice is not punished, in the nature of things vice must increase.

The penitentiary and the district prison are not punishments to our morally and socially degraded labouring classes. I do not think that crime increases amongst us, because the people, as some affirm, are "so bad." I would introduce flogging, on the grounds that they are not "so bad," but as it would be felt to be a punishment it would put a stop in three months to more than one half the petty larcenies committed, would indirectly beget industry, and tend to work a speedy reformation of morals and mode of life. The offenders against laws in most civilized countries are past shame; the offenders in this country are not brought to shame, but will be susceptible of reformation whenever this shall be the case. If the laws, therefore, do not meet our present state of things at once, and that extensively and determinedly, I believe the want of the necessaries of life amongst the people will and must increase in future years, for idleness and licentiousness will increase.

9. Yes, as above reply intimates.

The Rev. T. T. ORGILL to the Bishop.

1. None, except perhaps among a few of the aged and infirm.

2. I do not consider the people are poorer.

3. The people are generally well clothed, and where raggedness exists it arises from incorrigible idleness.

4. I do not think there is any increase of larceny in this district, and in such cases as may occur it is the result of idleness.

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* I heard the Agent for Immigration say that there was a demand at this moment for nearly 3,000 labourers.

5. The ordinary field labourer is generally paid 1*s.* per diem, and that rate is usually sufficient for the work performed.

6. Employment is not so easily obtained here, in consequence of the general abandonment of sugar cultivation, but in the neighbouring parish there is a ready demand for labour.

7. Labourers in this district never work more than three or four days in the week, and not unfrequently refuse work when offered. They are nearly all freeholders, and keep their horses or other stock. I may mention that in the last twelve months properties have been bought by some of them to the extent of nearly 600 acres, at a cost of about 400*l.*

8. I see no reason to anticipate any such result.

9. Improved legislation would, no doubt, benefit the Island generally; but only increased knowledge, prudence, and industry will, I conceive, produce any great improvement among the labouring population.

(Signed) T. T. ORGILL,
Incumbent of St. Mark's, Portland.

7th March 1865.

Archdeacon ROWE to the Bishop.

1. There is no distress among the labouring classes in the neighbourhood in which I reside, for many estates are in cultivation, and the people receiving their wages regularly, and not depending on the cultivation of their own lands.

2. I do not consider the people to be poorer than they were three or four years ago.

3. The people generally clothe themselves decently; I mean the natives of Jamaica. The coolies are indecently clothed, after the fashion of their own country. I am informed that in the French colonies they are compelled to appear in decent clothing from the day of their landing.

4. The great increase of petty larceny does not arise from distress, for those who commit this crime are generally strong young men who can earn full wages or in other ways maintain themselves comfortably. But the punishment awarded to this crime is so light, and prison discipline so lenient, that it becomes to them a matter of indifference whether they are convicted or not.

The peasantry of Jamaica are, generally speaking, a well-conducted industrious people, kind to each other, and willing to attend to the instructions of the ministers of religion; but in consequence of a misplaced leniency, which forbears to inflict proper punishment in cases of larceny, sorcery, bestiality, and other crimes, there is a race now growing up which are likely to prove the destruction of the community. Honest and industrious persons are afraid to plant their provision grounds, knowing that as soon as the products of the land arrive at maturity they will not only be stolen but wantonly rooted up and destroyed, and I am persuaded that whatever want now exists proceeds from that cause more than any other.

5. A shilling a day for an able field labourer is quite sufficient to maintain him in comfort; but the people generally labour by the task or job, and make more than this. At the present price, however, of Jamaica produce, i.e., the great produce of sugar, it is likely that many will be unable to carry on the cultivation of their estates at this rate, and that their properties will be abandoned in consequence.

6. The people can of course only get wages for labour when they live in the neighbourhood of estates that are in cultivation. But they can always turn their labour to account by growing corn, provisions, coffee, ginger, tobacco, sugar cane, &c., for land can be bought in most districts at 40*s.* an acre, or rented at from 12*s.* to 20*s.*

7. The people seek employment on the estates, or confine themselves to the cultivation of their own land, according to inclination or the profits derived from either course. And, with the exception of the idle and wicked ones already spoken of, they are an industrious and contented people, and might, under proper and wholesome regulations, be made as good a peasantry as any in the world. I have had long experience among them, and my duties call upon me to make frequent journeys, and I consider myself competent to form a correct judgment on the subject.

8. If the crime of larceny is stopped by proper laws I do not anticipate an increasing want of the necessaries life, but, on the contrary, an increasing abundance. And if "obeah" and "sorcery," which are only other names for secret poisoning, and are much on the increase, are, together with other heinous offences, severely punished, as they ought to be, I look for a corresponding increase of happiness and prosperity among our people.

9. I consider the laws of Jamaica to be excellent in all other respects except the points in which I have stated them to be deficient. The taxes are light, and the people would be happy and prosperous if a stronger check were placed on the wickedness of the few.

Slavery was a system under which there could exist no room for the exercise of proper parental discipline or the formation of social habits; and although a vast improvement has taken place in the condition of the people since the emancipation, parents have not yet learnt how to bring up their families respectably, and there has been, therefore, nothing to supply the place of that former discipline, which, hateful as it was in many respects, was still of use in restraining from the commission of crimes destructive to society.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROWE, A.M.,
Archdeacon of Cornwall.

6th March 1865.

The Reverend J. CORK.

MY LORD,

I HAD an opportunity of seeing the custos this morning for a short time. He regretted that time was too short for him to add to mine his written opinions. He said he should have stated, had the questions been here a few days earlier, that the industrious peasant is always known by his appearance, that he does not lack for labour on his estates, that he pays about 240*l.* weekly in wages, but that his

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labourers come to him from all quarters, not a few all the way from the Point of Hanover. The truth is that he profits by the abandonment of estates, and that these distant comers prove that as a rule there is no steady labour to be had. The population near Mr. Vickers' three estates, if they were what as industrious people they would be, could and would more than supply Mr. Vickers' demands on the labour market.

I have, &c.

The Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kingston. (Signed) JOSIAH CORK.

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1. Undoubtedly, very considerable distress.
2. They are poorer.
3. As a rule the people here dress beyond their means, especially taking the enhanced price of clothing into account.
4. The increase of petty larceny is the natural result of the so-called revival. The idleness of the year of the revival resulted in a positive lack of food.
5. Certainly, for the task performed, an average of one shilling per diem is a high wage. I speak with knowledge as a son of an English race of agriculturists.
6. Most assuredly; but in Jamaica there is no continuous labour to be hired.
7. They only seek such employment by fits and starts; a steady continuous labourer would not have to seek employment.
8. Certainly there will be future distress increasing in the ratio of the abandonment of sugar estates, and the exhaustive mode of food growing, which speedily wears out our finest woodland.
9. By better legislation I understand a radical change in our government. Our elections are a parody on the electoral system of England. Is it to be expected that the recently emancipated can suddenly know how to choose suitable representatives? It took Englishmen many generations to acquire their present position.

The want is a single Legislative Council. Having this, the first step will be taken towards a better state of things.

(Signed) JOSIAH CORK,
March 7, 1865. Rector of Westmorland.

The Reverend G. W. DOWNER.

1. Of my own personal knowledge I know of no distress among the labouring classes in my district. I believe, however, that in consequence of the present severe drought the people in some of the neighbouring villages are suffering to a certain extent, the provision crop having partly failed, and labour being some what scarce.
2. Having only been in this part of the country two years, I am unable to give my own experience, but from what I can gather from long residents in the neighbourhood the pecuniary condition of the people is much the same as it was "three or four years ago."
3. Judging from my congregation, which averages about 300 of the labouring classes, I think they do. I cannot ascribe such raggedness of clothing as I have witnessed, except in the case of the old and infirm, to poverty, but rather to indolence and laziness, the fruitful causes of much of the misery which so grievously afflicts our land.
4. No one acquainted with the various means of honest subsistence open to the labouring classes of this country can for a moment attribute the recent increase of petty larceny to increasing distress. The main causes at work are rather for the most part idleness, laziness, and a thorough indisposition on the part of such persons to gain their livelihood by honest labour and persevering industry. In this view of the case I am supported by the fact that those guilty of such "petty larceny" are almost always the strong and the young.
5. The ordinary rate of wages for strong men is from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per day, and for women from 9*d.* to 1*s.* This I consider to be a very fair rate of remuneration. I must, however, add, that the more usual way of employing the labourers is by job work, and in this way they can earn at times 2*s.* and upwards per day.
6. For the most part they certainly can.
7. They do not to the extent they might. Many reasons might here be adduced to account for this unwillingness on the part of a large portion of the labouring classes to seek employment. Numbers find it more profitable to labour on their own behalf in their provision fields, and land being so cheap, and the soil so productive, they are able to do this with much greater advantage to themselves than by labouring on behalf of others. Then, again, the wants of the labouring people are so few, and nature is so bounteous, that there is seldom any very great necessity resting on those indisposed to labour to do so. And here may be added, that others prefer living out of the industry of the honest and hard working than by labouring for themselves.
8. Giving to the subject that amount of consideration which its weight deserves, I cannot but conclude that, except such change takes place in our laws so as to render them a greater terror to evil doers, increasing want of the necessaries of life amongst the people generally will probably be the dread prospect before us; because for this, among other reasons, that the industrious and deserving of our labouring classes will be intimidated, on account of the frequent depredations made on their grounds and provision fields, from cultivating the soil to the extent that they otherwise would.
9. If our laws were made more stringent, and education based upon the system of industrial schools, and made compulsory, I feel sure that the present state of the people would be materially improved.

(Signed) G. W. DOWNER,
March 7, 1865. Island Curate, Lime Savannah, Clarendon.

I have been resident in this part of the country twenty-five years. My experience agrees with the above. (Signed) GLAISTER BELL, Vestryman.

The long drought experienced in most parts of the Island, and particularly in our neighbourhood, has given rise to a certain amount of distress among the labouring classes generally; but until very recently, from the cause above stated, the people were almost altogether independent of the estates, and doubtless such will again be the case when we are blessed with more favourable seasons. In all other respects I perfectly agree with the Rev. G. W. Downer in his remarks set forth.

(Signed) A. J. MELVILLE, J.P.

I have been a resident in this part of the Island for the last eight years, and can endorse the foregoing remarks. (Signed) J. W. SCOTT

Mr. T. N. GARRIQUES.

1. With regard to the actual labouring classes, there is no distress as to the necessaries of life, but many so-called labourers only seek work when absolutely compelled by want. This class is a numerous one.

2. Without doubt there is a greater amount of poverty now than there was three or four years ago, but this must be taken of the unthrifty generally, a class largely on the increase.

3. As to clothing, the lower class of labourers during the week appear in rags, but on market-days and Sundays their habiliments show no signs of the weekly rags. The higher class even during the week present a respectable appearance.

4. The petty larcenies that so generally prevail are to be attributed to the laziness of the lower orders, who, having every facility to prey upon the provision grounds of their neighbours and the produce of the estates, rest their sole dependence on this method of satisfying the cravings of nature.

5. For first class labourers, such as cane-hole diggers, trenchers, and woodcutters, 1*s.* 6*d.* a day is about the average rate; second class can make about 1*s.* 9*d.* a day weeding and by other field work; third class, consisting of children, earn 6*d.*, 4½*d.*, and 3*d.* per day in the field.

6. Work at the above rates can be obtained on the estates.

7. Such employment they seek as it suits their convenience. The better class of course naturally attend to their provision grounds, and what spare time they have left from them they spend on the estates. These, in general, are industrious and well to do. The lower class only seek labour when compelled by absolute want.

8. Vagrancy and vagabondism are largely on the increase, and this, if not checked, will produce a greater amount of poverty in ensuing years.

9. The great mass of the people, being restrained or guided by no moral principle, with few wants, in the main easily satisfied, staying the cravings of hunger with the fruits of the country, easy of access at all times and at all seasons, are urged by no incentive to diligent labour, and consequent improvement, but lead a life of * Nothing but stringent laws respecting vagrancy, vagabondism, and squatting, and the introduction of large numbers of immigrants to act as a lever to force them to continuous labour, will tend to produce improvement.

* Sic.

(Signed) T. N. GARRIQUES.

The Reverend J. G. RICHARDS.

1. Regarding the condition of the people in general, I am not aware that there is much or any distress, either in the articles of food or clothing, among the labouring classes in my district. There are doubtless some who labour under many deprivations, but the district is fruitful in provisions, which are cultivated on "rent land," while coffee is profitably grown on their own little properties.

2. It may be difficult to answer this question correctly. Circumstances occasionally happen which would lead us to suppose that many of the people are accumulating money. At any rate I do not think that they are poorer than they were three or four years ago.

3. It is a matter of general regret that ordinarily the people do not clothe themselves as decently as they should, although on Sundays, and on other occasions of particular interest to them, they will make a great display of expensive dress. The bad quality of the cotton and other common cloth, and the excessive price at which it has ranged since the American war, and not any increasing poverty generally among the people, must be regarded as, perhaps, one chief cause of the raggedness that may be observable among them.

4. No. Perhaps on examining the records of our petty courts, or taking a view of the inmates of our prisons, it would be found that the generality of those undergoing punishment for petty larcenies are young and able-bodied persons, and who have been influenced by other causes than the mere pressure of distress to do evil. The negro confessedly inherits a thievish disposition as one of the consequences of slavery. There is also little or nothing of what may be called home education among our people. Few are careful to instil right principles into the minds of their children, or do it in any effectual way. And their treatment of the young is often so injudicious that their children become vagrants from their homes at the most critical period of their age, and enter upon irregular and sinful courses.

5. With regard to this and the two following questions I imagine that the subject of wages and remuneration for ordinary field labour has been pretty well settled in the experience of the past. The labourer exerts himself very differently when working by the day and when working by task or job work. In this district the people are not dependent upon estates employment; they find it more profitable to labour for themselves.

(Signed) JOHN G. RICHARDS.

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The Reverend J. CAMPBELL.

MY LORD, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, Rodney Hall P.O., March 7, 1865.

I BEG leave to return the following answers to the questions contained in your circular of the 27th February last. They are numbered to correspond with the numbers of the questions to which they relate.

1. There is a good deal of such distress.

2. Poverty is now more visible, and is, perhaps, more commonly felt, on account of the increased price of some of the imported articles of food generally used by the poorer classes, and especially of clothing.

In this and the surrounding districts, I think that the number of poor persons has been becoming greater for the last few years; but the aggregate wealth of the labouring class has been, and still is, increasing. This is to be inferred from the progressive growth which has been taking place in the central village of Linstead, of trade in products brought to market by small cultivators, particularly in coffee. That trade of this kind has been advancing, I conclude, not only from my own observation, but from information given to me by one of the principal dealers in Linstead.

3. They do. Many keep themselves clad with difficulty, through unavoidable poverty. Unsightly and dirty clothing, however, to be ascribed to poverty resulting from idleness and immorality, is not unfrequently to be seen; but scantiness of apparel, and garments worn to a ragged or patched condition, often appear when want is not the cause; labourers commonly go to their work thus habited from custom and choice. Decency is not always regarded in the case of children, who in many instances are to be seen on the roads or in the fields near their dwellings naked, or nearly so. This I attribute chiefly to the indifference of those who have charge of them.

I believe that there is at present an unusual scarcity of clothing among the people on account of the high cost of materials, and that this is one of the chief causes of the general falling off in attendance at public worship which has been lately observed.

4. This I believe to be, acting along with other influences, an exciting cause, but the main and predisposing cause, and that which produces the abounding of the crime, I consider to be want of moral principles, and low and lax feelings and customs in respect to domestic conduct, among a large proportion of the lower classes. From the latter source springs a tendency to unsettled and vagrant courses; while habits of wandering and prowling are sometimes formed even in childhood. From inquiry at the District Prison, I have ascertained that most of those recently committed there for petty thefts have been needy and of the lowest grade; yet I do not think that in the body of those who are poor from unavoidable and continued adversity there are many who resort to this mode of relief; and, on the other hand, I believe that much of the stealing that now occurs is perpetrated by able-bodied and active people, who, if destitute, are not so from necessity; for in very many cases the quantity taken, or the manner of the theft, indicates arranged plan rather than the impulse of present suffering. The plundering of agricultural produce which now goes on appears to me to be for the greater part akin in principle and motive to another kind of theft which is also very prevalent, and which is perceived more plainly than the former to arise rather from the character and habits than the necessities of those who are guilty of it; I allude to the frequent crime of stealing horses from their pastures.

5. I am not able to give an abstract and explicit answer to this question, The field labour on sugar estates in this district is usually performed in measured tasks at a certain rate, and on the average a shilling may be obtained for a task which can be accomplished early in the afternoon. I believe that the labourers are thus generally fairly remunerated for the time which they bestow; but I doubt whether, working as they do, their earnings would be sufficient for their maintenance without the additional support derived from the cultivation of their own fields. Day and job-work labourers do not give their full time usually to such employment. They undertake it merely when they have a particular purpose in view. It is not with most of them pursued as a continuous business, and while engaged in it they very seldom are employed upon it more than five days in each week.

6 and 7. I believe that usually they can get employment at such recompense as I have spoken of in the answer No. 5. At certain times, however, the business of the estates requires few hands, and thus it occasionally happens that applicants for employment are refused. I have noticed above the desultory way in which field labourers work on the estates. I would here add, that I think it doubtful whether the estates in this district would be sufficient, in regard to the extent to which they could be cultivated, to keep the whole of the field labourers in general employment.

For some time, latterly, labourers from other parishes have been much employed in this district. The reason of this is that the managers have, as to several operations, offered lower wages (or, what is equivalent, enlarged the tasks), and that the reduction has been more willingly accepted by strangers than by the people of the locality,

On one of the estates in this parish there is, as I have been informed, considerable difficulty in obtaining the labour required, though the estate is somewhat apart from others, and is surrounded by a numerous population. The people around possess lands of their own, and the district is favourable to the cultivation which they pursue. Hence they find it, I presume, unnecessary to seek much employment on the estate.

On the whole, I would answer to the seventh question that the field labourers do seek employment, but not regularly or continuously; and that when they do not, or when they refuse it, they generally have some other object in view, or do not feel an immediate need for it, or are dissatisfied with the terms offered.

There is little demand for field labour, except on the sugar estates. Considerable employment, however, is afforded about the trade of Linstead in the business of carrying to and from Spanish Town, and in the cutting of logwood.

8. I see no reason to anticipate such an increase, irrespective of extraordinary adverse events.

9. No way occurs to me in which legislation could have direct or early effect in improving the state of the people; but measures tending to correct the moral defects of the people, which I consider to be a very influential cause in hindering their prosperity, to improve their sanitary resources, and to

facilitate their intellectual culture, would probably combine to effect a gradual amelioration of their condition. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN CAMPBELL,
Rector of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Kingston.

The Reverend C. R. CHANDLER.

1. No such thing exists in my neighbourhood as want of food among the people. I ministered yesterday to a very large congregation composed almost entirely of the labouring classes, and better clad peasants I could not desire to see; in fact many of them were tastefully and fashionably attired. It may, however, be right to mention that they complain sadly of the present high price of clothing, and if this continue much longer I have no doubt they will find a difficulty in this respect.

2. I do not think the people are poorer; but owing to the gradual abandonment of the estates around us prospects are anything but cheering.

3. The people generally clothe themselves as decently now as they did 10 years ago. Any case of raggedness of clothing must be ascribed not to poverty, but to laziness and moral depravity.

4. Not in the least. In my opinion it is to be attributed to habits of sheer idleness and vagrancy, and which 3 or 4 years ago were greatly fostered and encouraged by that awful profanation of religion known as "the revival."

5. One shilling a day for a man, and ninepence for a woman.

6. I don't believe they can. The planters say they are unable, from low prices of sugar, &c., to employ labourers by the day; they can only employ them "by the job." In this way the male labourer cannot or will not (I don't know which) earn his shilling, nor the female labourer her ninepence a day. Moreover, several of the estates in my neighbourhood are being gradually abandoned, so that the difficulty of getting employment is daily increasing.

7. A portion of the labourers in my district seek employment on the estates under "the job" system alluded to above; others do not. They say they prefer cultivating their own little properties, which "pays them better."

8. I do anticipate this to some extent, unless something be done to check the incessant plundering of the people's provision grounds. Industry ought to be protected by stringent legal enactments, and every encouragement given it.

9. Most decidedly I do. And first and foremost, if the Legislature would set themselves to work to devise some plan whereby to resuscitate the dying-out agriculture of the country, prosperity would gradually return, and all classes would participate therein.

C. R. CHANDLER,
Island Curate of St George's,
Guy's Hill, St. Ann's.

March 6, 1865.

I sent these questions to a very intelligent and observant friend of mine, T. H. Sharpe, Esq., and he has been good enough to send me his opinion on the various matters contained in them in time to send along with my own.

C. R. CHANDLER.

The Reverend S. COOKE.

1. Not that I am aware of, except among the very old and decrepid, who have been abandoned by their family.

2. Certainly not.

3. As a general rule they do. There are, no doubt, exceptions, but this is from choice, from bad and dirty habits, and not from any real necessity.

4. To idleness, vagabondism, and a too lax system of legislation, which can only be put down by laws of a more stringent character. The whip must be resorted to. Punishment should follow instantly on conviction, and that as publicly as possible. This is the opinion of the labouring classes as a body, and until this be done there is no safety for them.

5. For day labour as it is generally performed, one shilling.

6. Easily. But by task or job work they could readily earn twice as much, or more. I of course am speaking of agricultural or field labourers.

7. They do not,—from indolence.

8. If by this I am to understand the import duties, I do not anticipate any such result. It is computed that an acre of good land, properly cultivated, will give a return of 30*l.* a year. But the people are improvident on the one hand, and fearfully robbed of their industry by a parcel of vagabonds who live by robbery on the other hand.

9. Yes; if their industry was better protected than it is at present. There must be a more perfect system of education, and this must be compulsory. Their dwellings too should be improved. But so long as the father and mother, sons and daughters, are all huddled together in one room, as it is too much the case, the moral character of the people will remain as it now is, the lowest state of moral degradation.

S. H. COOKE, Rector.
St. Thomas-in-the-East,
Morant Bay, March 7, 1865.

The Reverend H. P. C. MELVILLE, Island Curate, Ocho Rivi, St. Ann's.

1. There is no distress in my neighbourhood among the labouring classes, i.e., using the word "labouring" in its literal signification. There may be distress, and no doubt there is considerable suffering felt by those whose age and infirmity have incapacitated them for labour. The civilization of

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this country has not reached that point when parental, filial, or even social feeling is readily or sensibly appreciated or exercised; infirmity or accident removes the power of rendering assistance to the family, and no shame is felt by the family in withholding in such cases the common necessaries of life, of food, and clothing. The indolent have a sufficiency of the necessaries of life, but as that sufficiency depends upon depredations committed on the industrious, it is precarious and irregular; that there is any necessity for distress existing in this country is sufficiently disposed of by a consideration of the thousands who have by an easy exertion acquired comfortable independence after only 27 years from their emancipation.

I do not consider the people poorer than they were three or four years ago,—reserving that one point of clothing, which depends upon the supply of cotton to the manufacturer. When the price of clothing rises 200 per cent., poverty may be predicated of any one, belonging to the labouring class or not, who requires clothing, and proportionately to the amount of clothing required.

3. On Sundays, and on occasions when there is a public gathering, the people clothe themselves extravagantly. The raggedness witnessed must be ascribed to a want of modesty and virtue, which is not inconsistent with a desire to be extravagantly clothed when there is any public observation to be satisfied.

4. I attribute the increase of petty larceny, not to increased distress but to the impunity which attends the commission of that kind of crime, and the liberal provision given by the public after conviction of such offences.

5. If the work done at present is the measure of a fair day's labour, then 1*s.* per diem is a handsome remuneration. When the labourer increases his day's work his day's pay is, I believe, always increased proportionately.

6. Readily, I believe.

7. They do not always seek employment, because they have to give considerable attention to their own agricultural fields. It must be remembered that what is called the "labouring class" do really feed the rest of the community, as far as agricultural products are concerned.

8. I do not anticipate an increasing want of the necessaries of life, depending upon the continuance of our laws as at present.

9. If legislation would lead to a better appreciation of the difference between "meum" and "tuum" I have no doubt that the present state of the people would be materially improved. Self-respect and self-reliance, belief in industry and integrity, can never exist whilst the licentious and common indolent thief fares better in the prison than the honest and brave labouring man does in the midst of his family, and when the punishment of crime has been so refined that it has become ludicrous in the eyes even of the criminal.

The Reverend WM. SHEARN.

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's circular of the 27th ultimo, requesting me to answer certain questions "for the purposes of a report desired by the Chief Secretary "for the Colonies, and regret that it did not reach me in time to enable me to ascertain the opinions "of others without delaying my reply."

I feel myself incompetent to answer the questions properly, but will do the best I can.

I have, &c.

Georgia, March 6, 1865. (Signed) WILLIAM SHEARN.

No. 1. There is considerable distress among the labouring population here through want of food and clothing, especially the latter.

2. Yes.

3. Some dress far beyond their apparent means, but generally speaking they are not decently clothed, and many of their children are almost destitute of clothing, and consequently keep away from school. In very many cases the cause is poverty, produced by indolence and drink.

4. In some cases to increasing distress, but in the great majority of them it must be attributed to idleness, the love of dress, and that entire destitution of religious principle which is so fearfully increased by the numerous rum shops which have been opened in all directions, and those midnight meetings which are held for immoral purposes, under the pretence of serving God; and I know of none more calculated to bring His curse upon the land than those which are wickedly and falsely called "revival meetings."

5, 6, 7, I cannot answer these questions.

8. I do.

9. Yes, if men can be found who are both able and willing to enforce the laws when made, but not otherwise, and hence the difficulties which surround us.

(Signed) WM. SHEARN,
Island Curate.

The Reverend C. M. MAGNAN.

REPLIES to QUESTIONS respecting the Condition of the Peasantry in the St. Thomas' or Bluefields District, Westmoreland, desired by his Lordship the Bishop of Kingston.

1. There is no distress among the labouring classes in my district for want of the common necessaries of life, or of food and clothing. There are some instances of aged and diseased persons who are subject to these privations, but in most cases their distress is owing to the custom too rife among the peasantry of shamefully neglecting their infirm and afflicted relatives, and leaving them to be provided for by the parish or church to which they belong.

2. I believe the people to be comparatively poorer than they were three or four years ago, owing to the increased price of salted food and clothing, and the fact that as a body they refused to pick

the last pimento crop, the pen keepers, owing to the low price of pimento, having reduced the wages for picking from 9*d.* to 6*d.* per bushel, though even at this rate the labourers could have easily earned 1*s.* 6*d.* per day during the crop.

3. The people generally clothe themselves decently whenever they appear at market, at church, or on any public occasion. When at work they wisely, I think, attire themselves to suit the occasion. I have witnessed some instances of ragged clothing, but only among the idle and worthless, and the poor afflicted persons alluded to in answer No. 1.

4. I do not at all attribute the recent increase of petty larceny in this district to increasing distress, properly so called, but to increasing idleness and profligacy. No industrious peasant need steal here, since by honest labour he can supply not only his necessities but provide himself with comforts. I believe the increase of petty larceny (among other evils) mainly to be attributable to the low standard of morals among the peasantry, especially the frightful system of concubinage that unhappily obtains, in consequence of which children are brought into the world whose parents care but little for their moral and religious culture, and who, after a few years, become idle, dissolute, and abandoned, too indolent to labour of themselves, and preying on the industry of others. The custom that now exists among the peasantry of living miles away from their provision grounds affords very great facility for dishonest persons to pilfer the fruits of their industry, since it is utterly impossible for any man who lives sometimes as many as three miles from his field to protect it from thieves.

5. I think from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day of nine hours for able-bodied men, 1*s.* for young men, and 9*d.* for boys of 14 years, 1*s.* for the elder women, 9*d.* for the younger, and 6*d.* for girls of 14 years, to be a fair remuneration for ordinary field labour.

6. The people can generally get employment at such wages, except the elder women, who sometimes do not get more than 9*d.* per day; but the rule here is to work by task or contract, a plan decidedly more advantageous for both parties, as the employer gets his work better done, and the labourer, if industrious, earns higher wages.

7. They do not always seek such employment, as very frequently they are engaged working in their provision grounds; many too, I fear, after working for a few shillings, have no ambition to earn more, but remain idly at home until necessity drives them again to labour.

8. I much fear that unless our present code is very materially revised with regard to the especial protection of the poor man's honest labour, the cultivation of ground provisions and the rearing of small stock will seriously diminish, and of consequence his means of providing for himself and family the necessaries of life, a calamity that will also seriously affect the higher classes, who are almost altogether dependant on the peasantry for those kinds of food.

9. I conscientiously believe that the present state of the peasantry would be materially improved by better legislation, particularly by special Government measures of an agricultural, sanitary, and educational character.

Memorandum.—This is a Pen district, where cattle are bred and pastured, pimento picked, and dye woods chopped, &c. There is only one sugar estate in it. Being on the coast, some of the people are advantageously employed in fishing. On the whole, it is a favourable district for the peasantry. It contains 4,200 souls.

Old Shipton, March 4, 1865. (Signed) CHAS. M. MAGNAN, Stipendiary Curate,
St. Thomas' or Bluefields, Westmoreland.

The Reverend D. R. MORRIS.

ANSWERS to QUESTIONS proposed for the Information of the Chief Secretary of the Colonies.

A preliminary remark is necessary on my part. My duties lie in a large town, Montego Bay, in which the distresses of most are largely connected with causes different from those which affect the labouring peasantry; my duties also are so numerous that I have not much opportunity of instituting much inqulry in this matter among those employers and employed who reside at some distance, in the rural part; at least not without longer time for the purpose.

1. There is a good deal of distress in this town, which was formerly prosperous, but is now in a decayed condition generally; but this distress is found very much among females, who have been accustomed to depend upon their exertions as seamstresses, and who, from the general depression of the Island interests, are pining in great poverty for want of employment. The applications from parties of this description, and of cases in some degree similar, both the aged and the young, to our Parish Church District Visiting Society, for a little relief by tickets for a supply of articles of food, are numerous.

2. I cannot speak with any degree of satisfactory information on this point generally. But I think that in this town the general depression of interests, and consequent poverty, may have increased in some degree during the last three or four years.

3. To a very large extent the population in the town, and those who attend the parish church from rural parts adjacent, do clothe themselves decently; not a few more expensively than is necessary. But at the same time there are many applications for relief in the matter of clothing to charitable individuals or associations. I cannot say that I have seen much raggedness; such as would be remarked as distressing.

4. The general depression may have had an operation as one of the causes of petty larceny; but I should imagine that indolence, vice, and irreligion have had much more to do with this matter.

5. I do not feel myself qualified to speak satisfactorily on this matter. My intercourse for the last few years, from multiplicity of duties in this town, &c., has not been much with those from whom the best information can be gained on this point.

6, 7. I should not suppose that, during the present depression of the planting interests, all who are willing can obtain full and continuous employment.

I am also informed that, at particular seasons of the year, favourable to the cultivation of their own provision grounds, the peasantry are unwilling to labour upon the estates, and prefer to give their attention to those provision grounds which often lie in the mountains and other localities remote alike

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from the estates and from their own ordinary habitations. And it would seem that these contingencies may occur when their labour is much needed on the estates.

8. I believe that free-grown West Indian produce needs more management, as in competition with slave-grown produce, and that without this there may be increasing depression and general poverty.

9. If any law could be devised to correct the fearfully extensive practice of concubinage in the land it would be of an incalculable importance to the material and social interests of the land as well as to the moral and spiritual. If it were made to carry with it some disqualification or penalty it might tell upon many. And surely a notorious habit of this kind might be made incompatible with a commission of the peace or with official employment.

This evil is a leprosy and gangrene to the Island, a deadly lues to the social system, a continual provocation to the Divine anger. Marriages are lamentably disproportionate to the population.

His Excellency Governor Eyre has attempted something for the discouragement of this evil, but more is needed in this direction.

I lament that I am not in a position to answer these questions more fully, and have had my time further limited by very special circumstances in my parish in addition to ordinary duties.

Residence, Montego Bay,
March 14, 1865.

(Signed) D. R. MORRIS, Rector of St. James, County of Cornwall.

From the Reverend Mr. HIME.

1. None, when there is health and industry.

2. I think not.

3. Generally decently. Not to poverty, but rather to slovenly and degrading habits in which they have been brought up from childhood; also that upon many estates they are allowed to work in gangs in a semi-nude condition. The nude condition in which coolies are often allowed to work and go about must have a generally demoralizing effect in this respect.

4. To depravity from want of proper Christian training when young.

5. From 1*s.* to 2*s.* per diem for adults, according to cost of field labour. From 3*d.* to 9*d.* per diem for boys and girls.

6. Generally when living near sugar estates,

7. Yes, generally when they consider that payment is sure to them. Not unfrequently the payment is very irregular and uncertain.

8. I think there need be no such apprehension.

9. I think it possibly might. Schools should be extended as much as possible under well-trained and qualified masters, a fair knowledge of music being considered an essential qualification, as it is by schools alone that the young can be brought under Christian influence and training.

The cultivation of all products capable of exportation should be advantageously encouraged to the utmost, such as the cultivation of coffee, cotton, ginger, chocolate, castor oil, cocoa-nut oil, cassava, arrowroot, &c., and the palmetto straw and other straws, which are now largely imported from the Spanish islands.

The Reverend C. A. ANGELL.

1. If there is any distress in my district (comprising 4,000 persons) it is only among the strong young people, who are too lazy to work, and the aged people, who are invariably handed over by their relatives to the parish for support when too infirm to labour.

2. Certainly not.

3. Considering their state of civilization, the people, when at work, clothe themselves as decently as we could expect, and on Sundays and holidays they dress, not only neatly, but even fashionably and expensively.

4. The increasing "petty larceny" arises entirely from the increasing laziness and depravity of the young people, for which, I am happy to think, the recent introduction of corporal punishment is likely to prove an antidote.

5. I consider that 1*s.* a day is ample remuneration for the field labourer, seeing that this individual works only six hours for a day's work, and requires to be strictly watched and urged while he is at work.

6. If they want it; the difficulty is not on the part of the people to obtain employment, but on the part of the managers of estates to get them to work.

7. They do when it suits their convenience, but a large number of our peasantry find it more profitable to cultivate their own lands, and are perfectly independent of employment.

8. The people who work obtain the necessaries of life from the soil, which is taxed at 1*d.* per acre only; besides they cultivate various products for exportation, *e.g.*, in my district coffee, which is purchased at their doors at the present time at 42*s.* per cwt., and the laws of the country in no way discourage their industry.

9. How can any race of people be improved unless their intellectual culture is attended to? The negroes on the whole are in this country grossly ignorant, and believe as firmly in their African superstitions as they do in the teachings of the Christian religion. They are utterly indifferent about the instruction of their children, and unless "better legislation" introduce some scheme of compulsory education, I fear that the prospects of the country will every day become more gloomy.

(Signed) CHARLES ANGELL,
Stipendiary Curate, Porus, Manchester.

J. HARVEY, Esq., to the Reverend T. GARRETT (enclosed in letter to Bishop).

1. Most assuredly not.

2. I consider the people of the labouring class not poorer, but in a worse condition morally than they were three or four years ago.

3. As a general rule, the labouring classes in Vere do not appear in ragged clothing; the exceptions are children whose parents neglect them, or who have lost one or both parents, and strangers from other parishes, who come to make money to take to their homes after the crops are over, and care nothing for their personal appearance whilst here. Such Vere labourers as are seen in rags are either of abandoned and vicious habits, or go half naked during the week that they may have the better clothing on Sundays.

4. Some cases of larceny may have been caused by present hunger, but the great majority of cases have been committed by able labourers whilst employed at fair wages; and in one instance on this estate a whole gang of over 20 persons were caught with a basketfull of canes each, cut from a piece of cane on which they had been employed.

The cause, therefore, of such an increase of petty larceny must be attributed to the wretchedly low moral condition of the people, upon which the mere imprisonment and labour in our gaols has no appreciable effect whatever.

5 and 6. In a sugar-growing district like this the rates of wages must doubtless in some degree be influenced by the prices obtainable for sugar, but I have never known those rates, as a rule, to be so low that an able-bodied man could not earn from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day, and a woman from 9*d.* to 1*s.* And during the last 25 years of my residence in Vere the people have always been able to find employment, except in times of extreme drought, at such rates of wages.

7. They are most capricious in this respect, frequently refusing work when offered to them, without any reason, and returning the day after to do the same work at precisely the same rates as they had previously refused. And it is a fact patent to all who have had any experience in the employment of labourers, that they will constantly take only half a day's work when they could easily perform a full task, and the only answer to be got from them when asked why they do not work a shilling's worth, is that they are quite satisfied with 6*d.*

8 and 9. I firmly believe that our laws cannot be to any extent the cause of "any want of the necessaries of life amongst the people," and do not, therefore, think their condition is to be improved by "better legislation." Doubtless stronger repressive laws are needed to put a stop at once to the enormous amount of petty larceny that prevails, and to give more confidence to agriculturists, large and small, that they will have some chance of reaping where they sow. When this is effected, and the united efforts of all the ministers of religion brought to bear upon the ignorance and immorality of our people, I have strong hope that, under God's blessing, the people of Jamaica, so highly favoured in her climate and soil, may yet show themselves to the world more grateful for and deserving of such high privileges.

(Signed) JAMES HARVEY,
Late Member of the House of Assembly for Vere, Attorney for Sutton's Pasture, Raymond, Parnassus, and the Lodge estates, and Lessee for Hill Side estate.

Mr. W. M. ANDERSON.

MEMORANDUM of my opinion on the several questions proposed by his Lordship the Bishop of Kingston, in his Circular of 27th February 1865.

1. Labouring men can always (except in cases of excessive drought, which has not affected this parish,) procure for food a sufficiency of yams and cocoas, the common edible roots of the country; but that is not sufficient to supply all their wants as civilized beings; and their means of obtaining anything beyond that is exceedingly limited, unless in the vicinity of towns to which they can carry their surplus for sale. Employment for wages is to be had only to a very limited extent indeed. Unmarried women and children are often badly off for necessaries appropriate to their condition; and this remark applies to a large portion of the population, for marriage amongst the lower classes is rare; indeed that condition is the exception and not the rule of their social life; and the fathers of the illegitimate children, which comprise nearly the whole of the infant children of the country, often abandon them wholly to their mother for support.

I think, therefore, that the suffering for want of sufficiency of suitable food, clothing, and other necessary accommodations of civilized life, falls most heavily on women and children; and this has been exceedingly aggravated by the high prices for clothing that have prevailed for some years past; and I am informed that in the country there is often exhibited in the appearance of the people a very diminished sense of decency; in many instances people are seen almost in a state of nudity.

2. The people generally are becoming poorer, unless in a few instances where they have acquired land, and enlarged their cultivation, become, in short, little farmers, raising, along with the common food of the country, sugar, coffee, cotton, corn, pease, &c. A sort of better class is thus gradually emerging from the masses. Their numbers might be enormously and most advantageously increased had the people any resident instructors in letters, and directors of their industrial and social life. But the bulk of the population is left in great measure to grow up in a state of nature, without culture or direction; and there is, I believe, much squalid misery among them. That is the opinion lately expressed to me by a clergyman as his experience. While their moral and physical condition is so low they can receive but little benefit from the pulpit instructions of the ordinary clergy; which, indeed, from their remoteness, a large portion of the people never hear.

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3. The clothing generally is poor and scanty, chiefly of common osnaburgh. Their means, or at least their ability from their low condition to procure money, is so limited, that it cannot be otherwise. This is evinced by frequent instances, even in towns, but in the country I have been even informed that the general decency of appearance has been much affected.

4. I attribute the increase of petty larceny to the increasing disorganization of society, and general want of employment. It is the merest fraction of the people that have any means of instruction or employment on wages. Unless we have an educational and religious agency, being amongst the people, to correct their social life and direct their industrial pursuits, we can have no progress. With such aid they may make great progress, as has been abundantly proved in several districts of the Island, where an industrious, well-to-do, thriving peasantry has been established, and the value of the land greatly increased. I instance particularly the parishes of Manchester, St. Elizabeth's, and Hanover; and I believe I may add to some extent also Trelawny, St. James, and St. Ann's, which have been much favoured during the last 30 years with able, practical, earnest men of various denominations, both clerical and educational.

5. The common rates of wages per day in plantations are 1*s.* for men and 9*d.* for women. But work is often done by the job, when more may be earned. The field of labour, however, is frequently very distant from their houses, from 5 to 15 miles, and employment cannot be had all the year. Without the aid of his garden or provision grounds the labourer could not subsist with his family on his wages alone. The food necessary, beyond the common roots of the country, is mostly imported from America, though, by a proper direction of the industry of the people, most of it could be raised and had in the Island, such as salted fish, and pork and beef, and corn or maize. The low rate of wages generally prevalent is owing to the expensive system of our agriculture. The expense of the pecuniary accommodations on which most of the estates are carried on, commissions in addition to a high rate of interest being charged on the pecuniary advances for disbursements, on the sale value of the crop, and on the amount of duty (which amounts to a considerable proportion of the value of the sugar), and the expense of a resident attorney or agent, and of managers and their subordinates, make it impossible, until we have our agriculture remodelled, to have paid by the landowners any rate of wages except a very low one. The agricultural interest is carried on under such burdens and disadvantages, and the country and its people cannot rise until it is made like that of other countries. The proprietary, therefore, are not to be blamed if their leading object has been to keep down wages, and for that purpose to seek Asiatic labourers, instead of our own people.

6. The people generally cannot obtain employment. There used to be 23 sugar estates in this parish; there is now only one near the western extremity called Burlington. It is exceedingly well managed, making 200 hogsheads of sugar and the usual proportion of rum. But it cannot in the whole year employ more than 100 labourers, allowing two to each hogshead of sugar. This is very little out of a population of 8,000. There has been lately a demand for labourers for a cotton estate lately established, but the labour is not constant for any considerable number, and the wages are low. Had our better classes the use of money on moderate terms there would be a great enlargement of employment and profitable agriculture; for our agriculture is profitable when the owner or lessee is his own manager, and has means of his own, or can get money at moderate interest.

7. I believe abundance of labour for agriculture or other purposes may be had where the field is in the vicinity of the labourers houses, or where there are houses for them and their families. Punctuality in payment must also be observed. In this respect there have been grievous failures. The willingness of the labourers to accept employment has been and is now evinced by their travelling great distances, say from 5 to 15 and even 20 miles, leaving their families, and sleeping in outhouses, to procure it. If the cotton culture be established, it will be of unspeakable value in the employment it will afford to women and children.

8. If no attempt be made to improve the social coudition of our people, I, in common with most people, anticipate every year increasing deterioration, destructive of our slender civilization, and of the material prosperity of all classes; resulting in a state of barbarism, disheartening to the better classes, who ought to have averted it, and to the great empire of which this Island forms a part. Nothing can be more certain than the inefficiency of the present system and its agency for the accomplishment of any change, nor (judging from past experience) do I think that the local government will ever recognize the importance and act upon it by legislation calculated to effect such a change. A semi-barbarism in the condition of the people and their families prevails through a great part of the Island. Women and children are and must often be great sufferers, for three fourths of the children born are illegitimate, and the legislature has hitherto refused to make a law to compel their fathers to contribute to their support.

9. Under the blighting influence of the general absence of the marriage relation the happiness and material prosperity of the people has been much retarded. Unless the Imperial Parliament undertake to legislate to check that monster evil, we cannot make progress. There is no faith in the important bearing of religion and morals on industry, and the production of material wealth by an intelligent development of the great wealth buried in our soil. We ought to be the richest and most attractive of Her Majesty's colonies; we are the poorest, the most distressed, and the most despised; and we shall remain so, if no help come to us from without.

It is important to observe that the annual production of sugar in this Island has fallen to 25,000 hogsheads!!! It has produced in times of slavery 120,000, besides the greater part of the food consumed by the labourers. The number of labourers now employed in the production of this great staple cannot exceed 1,200, say one to each hogshead, and that out of a population of half a million. If this fact do not arrest attention, I know not what will. At present prices our institutions require the whole saleable value of their crop to defray their cost. The end ought surely to be thought of before it came! During slavery the laws both of God and man were systematically ignored; the supremacy of these must be asserted; laws must be enacted to compel fulfilment of the mutual obligations of parents to children, and children to parents. At present the nearest natural relatives often look with perfect indifference on the destitution and sufferings of each other. Without the family affections and

obligations we are without the great spring of human industry. A moral sense on the subject will be erected when the law steps in to enforce these.

W. M. ANDERSON,
7th March 1835. Clerk of the Peace of the parish of Pentland.

The Rev. H. SCOTLAND.

1. As a clergyman located in a large and poor district, where there are few estates or resident gentry, I certainly do see at all times a great deal of poverty and wretchedness, especially in cases of sickness, old age, sudden bereavement, or desertion. But, with some few exceptions, the peasantry cannot be said to want the common necessaries of life to the extent that many poor people in England want them. In cases also of flood or drought, fire or tempest, epidemic, &c., these evils are not so readily mitigated in Jamaica, by means of local or general charity, as they would be in a richer or better known country, or, as I have reason to believe, they were here in former days.

2. I do think the peasantry of Jamaica are gradually getting poorer, and although not only the present drought, but also the droughts and floods of the last two years, may, perhaps, have hastened this result, yet I think it is a result which may be traced to other general and natural causes; *e.g.*, the depressed condition of the higher branches of trade and agriculture in Jamaica for many years past is at last, in my opinion, beginning to tell upon the honest mechanic or labourer in the land. The interests of the capitalist and the labourer, which, if viewed from a high point of view, will be found to be identical in essentials, have, unfortunately in Jamaica, been inadvertently or wilfully antagonized. Sometimes this has been done by the friends,—sometimes by the enemies of either class. Capital and enterprise on the one hand, confidence and industry on the other, seem alike to have fled the country. Englishmen will invest in Spanish bonds, Mexican securities, or Confederate cotton loans, rather than in Jamaica sugar estates or coffee properties ; and, on the other hand, the proper and wholesome checks and restraints, the healthy stimuli to industry and proper ambition, which act upon the labourer in England and other highly civilized countries, and act upon him too through the very consequences of his condition, are or seem to be in a great measure wanting in Jamaica. While slavery was an institution of which the country is well rid on any terms, yet the great annihilation of property, which was the consequence of the injudicious way in which that desirable measure was effected, created a vacuum, and consequently a collapse, first of the resources of the rich, whose interests were immediately sacrificed, but as the laws of equilibrium must in the end assert their force, even at this length of time, it seems to me that the class that was originally benefited is now beginning to feel the reversionary effects of the injudicious way in which its emancipation was secured to it.

3. Although I have seen some cases of it, in general, I should, say indecent exposure of person was rare. Working clothes may be ragged, but not always from poverty. It would be hardly just to upbraid a chimney sweeper on duty with the sooty condition of his habiliments. Cotton clothing, unless actually new and stout, may soon be reduced to rags by such occupations as bush billing, ranging after cattle, cane trashing, &c., &c. On Sundays or holidays most persons who have any self-respect may, although poor, appear cleanly if homely clad.

4. I do not consider there is sufficient distress in my district to be a very strong actuating cause of petty larceny. I admit the increase of this offence, but think that no unusual causes could be adduced to account for it, save, perhaps, that the way the people originally settled upon their small plots of land now necesitates their having their provision grounds far away from their houses; they cannot therefore be watching their field constantly, and opportunity, in Jamaica as well as elsewhere, assists if it does not make the thief. The people also do not give themselves much concern about making any sort of fences to protect their fields from cattle trespass, or from the gaze and attainment of the unprincipled wayfarer.

5. In general one shilling per day is about the "day work" rate, and if the labourers would give a fair day's work for a fair day's wage I should say an adult man's work would be worth 1*s.* 6*d.* a day at least, and by job work he could earn this sum even now by nine hours' steady labour.

6. An estate is both a farm and a manufactory. The labour question, therefore, becomes complicated. Sometimes the estate wants to carry on both branches of its business at the same time, sometimes only one branch. Some operations can only be done while others are also going on, and unless one class of labourers can be procured it is useless to employ a superabundance of those of another description. These remarks are also true in part of coffee and pimento properties. Pens are the only properties that would require a constant number of hands; and the number of hands a pen requires is numerically few as compared with its acreage and number of stock. If by the wave of a wand all the sugar estates in Jamaica could be turned into breeding pens, the supply of labour would be superabundant; if, contrariwise, all the pens were turned into sugar estates, the supply of labour would be palpably inadequate. So, again, if there were no sugar estates there would be no profit in pen keeping, and little value in cattle ; it therefore results, that, despite of exceptions, the supply of labour on the sugar estate must become the test of this question. I think this is one of the difficulties of the country that is gradually finding its own level and solution. The labour question is at present in the condition of our river courses ; sometimes these latter are not wide enough to meet the sudden demand made upon their capacity, at other times they are a world too wide for the thread of water that steals down their thirsty channels. It is, however, to be hoped, that in time the laws of supply and demand will, in the case of labour at least, supply those artificial reservoirs and conduits which will bring labour and capital to a permanent and salutary relation to each other.

7. The better class of negroes have become small settlers on their own lands, and although, I doubt not, would sometimes be glad of fair employment upon a neighbouring estate, yet the rate of wages would not be sufficiently high to tempt them to go any great distance from home, or to forego the cultivation of their own lands. There may, therefore, be a local glut of labour co-incident with a general scarcity, or, on the other hand, some particular estate from local causes may be occasionally or constantly badly off for labour when other districts are more fortunate.

8. As I think the present distress a natural conclusion from antecedent premises, so I also think

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that present evils will suggest, nay, in time, enforce their own remedy. Our laws I don't think are better or worse than laws usually are, although they might certainly be amended in a few particulars noted in Answer No. 9.

9. I don't think any sudden material improvement could be made by legislation alone. All that legislation could do, in my opinion, would be to remove existing obstructions, and in some few instances plant the seeds from which individual energy and enterprise would be germinated. I would suggest the following legal improvements, among others that occur to me:—

1st.—A simpler method of effecting sale or lease of lands.

2d.—Petty litigation in local courts to be discouraged, both by establishing courts of requests and also by any means that would act as a sieve, to allow the course of pure justice to flow through, while all the products of the mere spirit of litigation might be held back.

3d.—A good Educational Bill is much required, the educational grant ought to be increased largely, and encouragement of every sort given to the peasantry to send their children to school, compulsion being, in my opinion, not only impolitic and injudicious, but also, happily, hopeless and impossible. Included in this Educational Bill there should be provision for establishing or at least encouraging normal schools for the training of teachers.

4. A Larceny Bill providing corporal punishment has, I believe, recently been enacted by the legislature; and I cannot but think (despite much that has been said against such a measure) that if only no justification is given to its enemies to speak evil of its working that it will be a desirable and useful measure.

(Signed) HORACE SCOTLAND,
Island Curate, Leinidas Vale, St. John.

REFORM CLUB
PALL MALL

The Rev. R. B. LYNCH.

1. There is much distress prevalent in my ecclesiastical districts, specially among the coloured class, the females of which, dependant upon needlework, have not been able within the last three years to earn a maintenance, chiefly owing to the high prices of clothing of all description, which have prevented the labouring people from purchasing as extensively as previously, and so affording them employment. Many of this class are destitute of the "necessaries of life," if by that term I am to understand wholesome and sufficient food, and ordinary but decent clothing. I also believe that several of these females are tempted into acts of prostitution by the necessities of their circumstances. A very distressing instance came under my observation on Friday last (and I know of others). A fair coloured woman lost her husband a short time ago, leaving her with a young family. He had nothing at the date of his death, so that she was left destitute. I afforded her what aid I could out of the "poor box" on several occasions, trusting that soon she would be able to make a maintenance, but owing to the entire absence of employment such as she was capable of performing, and being, as she assured me with emotion, for days without food for herself and fatherless children, she yielded to the solicitations of a young lad who had visited her in distress and relieved her wants. This woman is now pregnant, and I fear has much future suffering to contend with.

There are many coloured people in my congregation who seldom are able to be present at public worship for want of decent clothing; in fact many have not been in church for months and even years for this reason.

Distress also exists among the labouring class, many of whom have large families of children, for whom they can scarce do more than feed, and who are growing up in perfect ignorance, never attending either school or church, and whom I have seen almost naked in their respective homesteads. The parents of many such are I believe "God fearing" people, and desire their children to be at school, and are anxious for their spiritual welfare, but whom they admit "never go to church" for want of clothes. It is among the married people of this class that poverty exists. Their provision grounds, where generally at a distance, are so frequently robbed they have ceased to cultivate as extensively as formerly, and therefore have to go weekly to market for the purchase of "bread kind," which now is sold dear, and any ready money they can obtain by job labour or otherwise goes to meet this want, leaving them nothing for clothing or schooling of their children. Profligacy is another cause of distress, by filling the yards of the old people with numerous illegitimate grand children, who are thus thrown upon them for support.

2. I certainly think so; employment is more scarce now (in my districts), and the population has greatly increased.

3. The people are fond of "gay clothing," and if they have it in their power clothe themselves well. The women, however, give most attention to the "outer garment," their under clothing being scanty and indifferent, in comparison with the dress. Wherever there is raggedness I ascribe it to poverty.

4. Not to increasing distress. This is clear, from the individuals who are convicted, nearly all of whom are strong athletic young men or women. I ascribe it to the absence of correct principles, naturally so; or to the fact that socially no distinction is made between honesty or dishonesty. Necessity may tempt to larcenies; but that necessity in most instances arises from the absence of industrious habits, which would at least suggest remunerative modes of labour.

5. If the labourer gave to the employer the maximum of his labour, I think 1*s.* 6*d.* a day to men and 1*s.* to women; but the fact is the employer generally gets the minimum amount of labour, and therefore is forced to give a minimum rate of wages.

6. There is not by any means sufficient employment by job or day, in my districts.

7. I believe when they are fairly and regularly paid they seek employment; but if they have not full confidence in the employer, or if that confidence has been misplaced, they will decline it.

8. I think so, certainly, if clothing is as dear as it now is, and if it is of same inferior quality. The provisions generally sold in our country shops are very dear and very bad. A medical practitioner mentioned to me that skin and blood disease were greatly on the increase in consequence of the unwholesome description of salt provisions sold at the shops.

9. Most certainly I do. The present Legislation is unsuited, I think, to the exigencies of the Island.

If our parochial arrangements were more liberal, and less tinctured with party bias and prejudice, and were diffused throughout the parish, instead of being centred in an extreme point of the parish, the poor, the sick, the ignorant might be aided, alleviated, and taught; and if there were one or two magistrates or intelligent persons elected as "district wardens," within the limits of each ecclesiastical district, to co-operate with the parson in the distribution of parochial aid, and in other ameliorating objects, I consider much immediate good would result.

Our present parochial system is not elastic enough for our present wants; it no doubt suited former days, when the interests of the large proprietary body alone required to be represented and cared for, but a change having occurred in the body politic, other and varied interests demand legislation which now are practically ignored. If there were district Boards, instead of one parish vestry, I think it would be for the better.

(Signed) Robert B. Lynch,
March 6, 1865. Island Curate, St. Andrew's Church, St. Elizabeth.

The Rev. J. S. Ramson.

My Lord Bishop, Malvern Post Office, March 4, 1865.

In reply to the questions in your circular of the 27th of February, which I only received to-day, I have the honour to return the following answers:

1st. There is great distress among many of the people through want of clothing, which they can only procure at exorbitant prices, and of very inferior quality, from the shops in their neighbourhood. These I think are reaping a rich harvest at the expense of the peasantry. In seasons of drought they suffer from want of bread kind, and many of them subsist chiefly on mangoes and other fruit, but much of this suffering might be prevented by their taking greater advantages of the seasons when they are regular, as the soil is fertile, and yields abundantly.

2d. My experience of the district does not extend so far back as three or four years, but from what I can gather I do not think that the people are poorer in any actual possessions, but their expenses of living being far heavier make them so.

3d. When they appear in public, as at church, for instance, the people do clothe themselves decently, but very many families keep entirely at home, being ashamed to show themselves. Of course there are many instances where the raggedness observed is attributable to worthlessness; but I think that by far the greater number of cases are owing to actual poverty. I have not observed anything like overdressing among them.

4th. I attribute the recent increase of petty larceny chiefly to the idleness of young men, who lead immoral lives, and who are not deterred from crime by fear of the punishment hitherto inflicted in the penitentiary.

5th. I consider the fairest mode of payment for both employer and employed is by "job work;" but the usual rate of 1*s.* per day for men and 9*d.* for women seems to to be generally satisfactory.

6th. I do not think the people can get constant employment in this neighbourhood. The population is numerous, and there are no sugar estates here; the chief work is to pick coffee and pimento.

7th. As a rule, I do not consider that the people ever refuse employment from a fair master.

8th. As the peasantry can generally easily procure the necessaries of life, and use but few imported articles, except clothing and salted fish, I do not anticipate much greater distress than at present exists. Possibly, their present suffering may induce them to use greater exertion for developing the resources of their own little properties.

9th. It seems to me that the peasantry are hardly conscious that the laws of the country have any direct bearing upon themselves, or are enacted for their benefit. Their only distinct idea of legislation being, that it calls upon them to pay taxes. I certainly think that a legislature which could be honestly commended to the people would tend very much to improve their condition.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. S. Ramson,
To the Right Reverend the Bishop of Kingston. Island Curate, St. Mary's, St. Elizabeth.

The Reverend Geo. Braine.

1. I know nothing of any "distress" beyond the usual amount of pauperism to be found at all times.
2. No.
3. Generally they are clothed "decently." The raggedness in able-bodied persons must be attributed to idleness.
4. Idleness. They allow the planting to pass, and then they must steal.
5. One shilling and threepence per day for a man.
6. I cannot say for the estates, but in my small place often I cannot get the labour at that price.
7. Generally in my district they do not; they are better off cultivating their own lands, rented or purchased.
8 The necessaries of life in this country are so few that I do not see that the legislation can materially affect them.
9. *Vide* Answer No. 8.

(Signed) Geo. T. Braine,
Island Curate, St. Christopher.

I send a letter signed by a few of our hearers, the most respectable labouring people in our congregation. The short time prevented my getting more.

JAMAICA.

We the undersigned coloured labouring population of the district of St. Christopher's, in reference to the questions sent to our minister the Rev. George T. Braine, declare that we know nothing of the distress and nakedness referred to, nor do we believe the increase of larceny is caused by such distress.

(Signed) J. BARR. WALTER SCOTT.
ABRAHAM NOTICE. FRANCIS RAMORE.
WILLIAM PRINCE. JOSEPH C. HARRIS.
WILLIAM JONES. RICHARD MORRISON.
SAMUEL SUTHERLAND. SAMUEL SEATON.
JOHN REID. ANDREW BIGGS.
ADAM FRANCIS. JOHN BROUGHTON.
JOHN PRINCE. GEORGE MADDER.
JAMES M'FARLANE. JAMES CAMPBELL.
GEORGE EDWARDS. ROBERT LINDSEY.

Mr. COOKE to Reverend H. INGLIS (enclosed in letter to Bishop).

1. There is little, if any, distress among the labouring class in this district, from the want of food and clothing, it being favourable for the growth of ground provisions and produce, such as ginger, coffee, and sugar in small quantities of two to ten barrels, which is manufactured by themselves.
2. I do not consider the people any poorer than they were four years ago.
3. The people generally clothe themselves decently, but there are exceptions among the idle and worthless.
4. I do not attribute the recent increase of petty larceny to increasing distress, but from indolence and depravity among a certain class of the people.
5. From 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day for able men and women.
6. The people can get employment at such wages, and on some estates in crop time they get 2*s.* to 3*s.* per day.
7. They seek such employment as suits their fancy, without any regard to the wants of their employers or their permanent engagement.
8. I do not.
9. I do not.

(Signed) W. P. COOKE,
March 4, 1865. Hermitage.

From T. P. WILLIAMS, Esquire, Proprietor of Gibbon's Estate, of Ashley Hall Penn, Exeter Penn, and Baymacary Penn, through Thomas Garrett, Rector of Vale, 7th March 1865.

1. There is much distress among them through their own indolence and great disinclination to work.
2. I consider them so, from the same reasons as stated above.
3. With a few exceptions, they do not clothe themselves decently, and I certainly consider the raggedness of clothing to poverty caused from their own apathy and not working continuously.
4. I consider the recent increase of petty larceny principally to laziness in not working as they ought, by which the great distress is brought on.
5. From 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*
6. They can always, if they will only work for it,
7. They do not always seek such employment, preferring to be idle and pilfering if they do not get such employment as suits them.
8. I do not, if the people will act differently.
9. I do not see what better legislation can effect for them, unless they improve their own moral and social condition.

(Signed) THOMAS P. WILLIAMS.

The Reverend W. N. BOURKE.

My Lord, Bona Vesta, Montego Bay, P.O., St. James, March 2, 1865.

IN reply to the questions contained in your circular letter of the 27th ultimo I would state—

1. That there is not any unusual or extraordinary distress among the people in this neighbourhood through the want of the common necessaries of life, of food, and clothing.
2. The people are not poorer than they were three or four years ago. I draw this inference from the description of houses which they build, the style of their dress, and the number of horses which they possess.
3. That the people are generally clothed decently. The raggedness of clothing in the case of healthy and able-bodied men and women, with their children, which I have observed, is to be attributed, I am convinced, to indolent habits, and the disinclination to labour, either on their own grounds or for wages, for even the bare necessaries of existence.
4. The increase of petty larceny, and of larceny from provision grounds, is to be attributed, not to increasing distress, but to the absence of the common principles of honesty, and to the impunity with which such depredations may be committed. The penalty on conviction of mere imprisonment, which brings with it no shame or disgrace, in no way acts to repress such crimes.
5. Sixpence to 9*d.* a day for boys and women; 9*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* a day for men, according to the description of work, I consider a fair rate of wages.
6. I believe that they can get employment at such wages.
7. Not always, and I attribute their not seeking employment to indolence, and the ease with which their wants can be supplied. Complaints have been continually made to me during the past three

years, by the possessors of 50 to 150 acres, of the difficulty which they experience in obtaining labour, though there is no want of population in the district. Even in the scarcity which prevailed during the past year I was asked, through my schoolmaster at Seaford Town, 2*s.* a day for common unskilled labour, and the labourers preferred to remain unemployed to accepting a less exorbitant rate of wages.

8. I do not anticipate an increasing want of the necessaries of life amongst the people generally in future years, if our laws remain as at present.

9. I believe that on the whole the laws which are enacted are based on a true knowledge of the wants of the country, and tend to promote the moral, physical, and spiritual welfare of the people. I believe that much good would result from the passing of a Bill compelling the parents to educate their children, so that they may be taught that freedom has conferred duties as well as privileges upon them. From a more effective police being established, and an alteration in the administration of the criminal laws, and the punishments inflicted. The two latter requirements would, however, be of no avail without further provision being made for the spiritual and moral instruction of the people.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM N. BOURKE.

The Reverend A. J. DAVIDSON.

My Lord, The Rectory, Lucea, March 6, 1865.

I have the honour to enclose replies to the questions which you forwarded to me on the 27th of last month.

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1. I am not aware that the labouring classes in this neighbourhood are, as a body, destitute of food and plain clothing. There may be individual cases of distress, especially in sickness, in which cases relief is always afforded if applied for to the proper authorities.

2. I do not consider the people poorer than they were three or four years ago. Those who were then improvident, and have so continued, laying by nothing, cannot now make the same show in dress which they then did, owing to the higher price of cotton fabrics.

3. The people, so far as my observation has extended, never, or very rarely, do clothe themselves very decently either in the field or mill yard, but at other times, when at home, or when going to church or to market, they are almost invariably decently clad. They do not wear such fine clothing, such gay dresses, as they used; a fact not to be deplored, which I attribute to the greater cost of the material. But if they would labour honestly, according to their strength, and during a greater part of the day, as labourers do in England, they might earn amply sufficient for all their needs during health, and also lay by something for time of sickness and declining strength in age.

4. I do not attribute the increase of petty larceny to increasing distress, except as that distress may be caused through idleness, which, in connexion with a very dim perception of, or rather small regard for the difference between, meum et tuum, I believe to be the cause. I may add that nine-tenths of the persons confined in the district prison at Lucea are on convictions for petty larceny; and that the same proportion of them are young and able-bodied persons, well able to maintain themselves by labour. A large proportion of them come from the parish of Westmoreland, where estates' labour can, I believe, always be secured by them.

5. I consider that 1*s.* per diem would be a sufficient remuneration to enable the labourer to live well, even in these confessedly dear times, which sum, notwithstanding the low price of produce, I believe the planter would be able and willing to pay for a good honest day's work.

6. I believe those who work fairly and honestly can.

7. They do not as a body do so. They prefer labouring in their own grounds, and taking it easily, or doing a half day's work on an estate.

8. The laws impose no such fate on the land or the people. If the people will only labour for themselves or for others, industriously and regularly, all will be well. Many of our imports might be and ought to be produced at home; I mean in the country.

9. No doubt the condition of the people may and will be very materially improved by future legislation. Legislative improvements in this country, at present, while the financial means are so limited, and the changes which are taking place are so extensive, cannot be thoroughly accomplished with rapidity, and I consider that the condition of the people will be more surely and permanently improved by steadily progressive and well-digested legislative measures than by extensive schemes hastily adopted, involving increased public debt and additional taxation.

I have, &c.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kingston. (Signed) ANDREW J. DAVIDSON.

The Reverend H. ISAACS.

1. No. Those who can labour need never want.

2. Much better off.

3. Generally. The raggedness witnessed I believe to be the result of the low tone of morals and disregard for decency.

4. Certainly not to distress. I attribute it chiefly to the absence of all compulsion to labour, the lazy habits induced by what they call revival, and that industry is not characteristic of the negro.

5. One shilling a day.

6. As often as they will take it.

7. Not equal to the demand. Answer 4.

8. So much land is now in the hands of small settlers and cultivators that production should exceed present demand, and the price of such productions should be reduced.

JAMAICA.

9. Yes. Greater protection can be afforded by judicious legislation to the active and industrious, and by incentives to activity and industry. Small grants might be made to each parish as the nucleus of industrial societies and exhibitions.

The Reverend V. HERSCHELL.

1. There is none. There is an abundant supply of food and all necessaries of life.
2. We have hitherto had no drought in this parish, and from personal observation I can state that the people are most decidedly in a better condition than they were three or four years ago.
3. Generally I find the people clothe themselves decently. Raggedness of clothing I ascribe not to poverty, but to indolence.
4. The increase of petty larceny I attribute not to the increase of distress, but to the increase of idlers, who, for want of severer punishment, are daily increasing in the Island.
5. I consider in the country parts 1*s.* quite enough for ordinary field labour. This remuneration would be found to be ample if the labourer would work six days every week, and four weeks in every month. The fact is that I have not found any labourer working consecutive weeks during nine years residence in the Island.
6. People can get employment if they are industrious, or if they take tasks, at 1*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* per day.
7. Many seek such employment, but a good many, from a lazy habit, do not. They are satisfied to live on one day's wages for a whole week.
8. It is rather difficult to answer this question. It is my opinion, however, that neither the taxation nor the laws of the country are too rigorous. The negro, unless aged or infirm, can earn enough for himself and family and be independent.
9. I do really, from observation, consider that the condition of the people could be materially improved by better legislation. If more attention were bestowed upon education of the young the Island would soon be in a more healthy condition, both morally and physically. I would suggest the next Legislative Assembly should do away at present with the petty jury, which is a curse in the present state of the Island. It upholds vice and rewards iniquity.

The Reverend WILLIAM FORBES.

1. I do not know of any particular distress in this parish.
2. I do not.
3. Any absence of decency in clothing must, I think, be attributed to laziness, and to the rise in the price of all articles of cotton manufacture.
4. I believe that the increase of petty larceny is owing to the fact that the old people, who were brought up under the discipline of slavery, are dying out, and that the young people who are taking their place are for the most part abandoning themselves to idleness and laziness.
5. One shilling for men and ninepence for women.
6. Not generally at day labour, because the labourers are generally so unfaithful that employers prefer job work.
7. Answered above.
8. I see no existing cause for such an anticipation.
9. I do think that the condition of the people generally might be greatly improved under a more enlightened system of legislation, which might be obtained under a Governor and Council, but not under the present "House of Assembly."

WILLIAM FORBES,
Rector of Manchester.

The Reverend C. H. HALL.

The answers to the following questions are given by me with reference only to the district in which I reside, and with which I am well acquainted. To put forth, as applicable to the whole Island, a statement mostly derived from local experience, would be evidently unfair.

1. Amongst the aged and diseased, who have no relatives, there is distress, though not more so now than there always has been, and always will be amongst that class. The most urgent cases get a small parochial relief, varying from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* weekly.
2. Certainly not.
3. The people generally clothe themselves decently. The only exceptions are amongst the paupers.
4. Idleness and unwillingness to work on the part of many of the young people of both sexes, and not distress, have been the cause of the recent great increase in cases of petty larceny. Almost all the thieves are the young, the able, and the strong.
5. One shilling a day. The day consisting nominally of nine hours, but the employer cannot count on more than six or seven hours real work out of the nine. Task work is now the general system, and the labourer turning out at eight o'clock finishes his task by one or two o'clock.
6. They can generally, if they wish for employment.
7. If they are not possessors of land they do. Otherwise they prefer working for themselves.
8. I see no cause for any such anticipation. We have abundance of fertile land, and a sparse population. Why should we want, if our people are industrious and honest?
9. For the repression of crime our laws should be more strict, whilst the education of the poorer classes of children should accompany this strict repression of crime. Our people would thus be

materially improved by a legislation stringent to repress evil, and liberal to develope good amongst them.

C. H. HALL,
Rector of Clarendon.

March 7, 1865.

The Reverend H. BROWN.

1. Yes.
2. Pauperism is on the increase, as the vestry books can testify, a large amount having to be raised every year for paupers, able-bodied men and women refusing to maintain their aged parents.
3. In the interior parts of my parish the children are often seen in a state of nudity. This, I think, is attributable to the idleness of their parents, who, if they would work, could afford to clothe their children decently.
4. To laziness and idleness.
5. One shilling per diem; but I consider the fairest arrangement between employer and employed is task work, when a man can earn, if he pleases, from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per diem. I have known and heard of persons only working a 1*s.* and even a 6*d.* a task, which has been completed before or by noon, and they have refused to take any more task that day. I can testify of my own knowledge that a person employed at day labour barely gives you six hours work, turning out at 9 o'clock in the morning, taking from one to two hours for breakfast, and drawing off between 3 and 4 o'clock.
6. Yes.
7. Some do.
8. No.
9. I think the present laws, if carried out, will materially improve the present state of the people, and a further improvement would take place in the rising generation if a compulsory Education Bill were enacted.

Annatto Bay, March 7, 1865. (Signed) HENRY BROWN,
Rector of Metcalfe.

Water Valley Estate, Metcalfe, Annatto Bay, P.O.
March 7, 1865.

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your favour of this day's date, covering circular from his Lordship the Bishop to you, submitting nine questions relative to the present condition of the "labouring population," and your replies thereto, in all of which I concur.

That greater distress prevails amongst the labourers within the last few years cannot be denied, but this is solely attributable to the disinclination of the negro to labour for himself or those who may wish to employ him.

He seldom seeks employment, and when you require his services you very often have to hunt him up. It is nothing unusual for an ordinary labourer to earn at task work (which is the only legitimate way you can employ him) from 8*s.* to 15*s.* 9*d.* per week of five days, and these amounts have been frequently earned under my immediate supervision, and in support of what I assert the Reverend Samuel Jones, Baptist minister at Annatto Bay (to whom I have shown my pay bills), can bear ready testimony.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) WM. MACDONALD,
Attorney and Manager of Water Valley Estate, Metcalfe, the Property of Messrs. Boddington & Co., of 9 St. Helen's Place, Bishopsgate Street. London.

Rev. Henry Brown,
Rector of Metcalfe.

The Reverend WILLIAM SMITH.

1. I have not observed much distress amongst the young and able-bodied people, but a good deal exists amongst the aged and sickly, who in many instances are very much neglected by their relatives, who ought to assist them.
2. This being a very seasonable parish, and the soil very fertile, the drought has not materially affected the cultivation, still I think that poverty amongst the inhabitants of this ill-fated Isle is on the increase.

The people for the most part are clothed decently on the Sabbath Day, but during the week many are to be seen with ragged and dirty garments, which may be attributed partly to poverty and partly from the increased cost of materials which has prevailed for some years past.

4. I attribute the increase of petty larceny more to the indolence and vice which exists amongst the rising generation than to any other cause, and the little impression which the punishment and disgrace of prison life appears to have upon them.
5. For ordinary field labour I consider 1*s.* a day for a man and 9*d.* for a woman fair remuneration, but some of the more industrious and energetic can earn 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* when performing particular kinds of work.
6. Employment in this part of the Island is to be had only to a limited extent, but in some seasons of the year the demand for labour is much greater than at others.
7. The more industrious portion of the people seek employment; but at particular seasons, such as crop time, the employers have frequently to invite labourers to work.
8. I have no doubt but that the want of the necessaries of life and general deterioration will increase amongst the people, unless some strenuous efforts are made to improve their social condition.
9. I do not conceive that the present state of our legislation is calculated to inprove the condition of the people; for instance, during the late session of our Assembly I have not observed the introduction

Jamaica.

of a single remedial measure. I am therefore of opinion that an urgent necessity exists for better legislation.

(Signed) William Smith,
Rector, Portland.

The Reverend John Smith.

1. There is certainly, among the labouring classes, but it is chiefly among the aged and infirm.
2. They certainly are.
3. The people generally, to my observation, clothe themselves decently; the raggedness of clothing is chiefly confined to the old, incapable of working, and to the idle, who would rather steal than work.
4. I conceive it to be attributed to their wilful demoralization.
5. One shilling is the ordinary rate of wages per day, with which the labourers are contented.
6. If they choose.
7. Some do; but the greater part prefer to be idle and do nothing.
8. It is hard for me to say; but certainly if things go on as at present there may result an increasing want in future years.
9. I certainly do, but in what manner exactly it is to be improved it is not in my power to define.

March 7, 1865. (Signed) John Smith,
Rector of St. Ann.

The Reverend J. S. Farquharson.

1. The present high price of cotton goods is made the excuse for not attending church; those who come are better and more gaily dressed than I ever remember to have seen.
2. Certainly not, but far more independent; the vast concourse of the labouring classes to be seen on the race ground, gaudily dressed, shows that they have means at their command when they will use them.
3. Many are dressed most disreputably, and I ascribe this to idleness, for all who will work can maintain themselves decently.
4. I fear I must date the increase of petty larceny from the revival; the people then seemed to expect to be fed miraculously, and failing this were driven to theft. Idleness suits their nature, and some prefer rifling their neighbour's ground to labouring for themselves.
5. One shilling. In this district job-work is usually given, and the labourer can earn from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per diem.
6. They refuse work when offered, and only take it when it suits their convenience, or when driven to take it for the want of clothing.
7. Answered above.
8. I do not think that the people are oppressed by taxation; in fact they evade it in every way they can, so how they can be affected by the same I cannot conceive.
9. I hope that the present stringent laws which have been just passed will make them more honest and consequently more industrious.

(Signed) John S. Farquarson,
Island Curate, St. Saviour's, Homoney.

The Reverend George Hall.

1. There is not much actual distress among the labouring classes in this neighbourhood from want of the common necessaries of life.
2. I do not think the people are, generally speaking, poorer than they were three or four years ago, although they doubtless feel some pressure from the high price of cotton clothing and salted provisions.
3. When seen abroad the people generally are decently clothed. Such raggedness of clothing as I have witnessed (chiefly in the villages) is, I think, to be attributed more to habits of idleness, and indifference on the part of parents to the respectable appearance of their children, than to poverty.
4. I fear the recent increase of petty larceny must be attributed more to laziness and unwillingness to labour than to increasing distress, inasmuch as the persons guilty of such offences are for the most part quite able to work.
5. One shilling per diem I consider a fair rate of remuneration for ordinary labour in the fields. Higher wages for "job-work" are given on the estates, but for the amount of work done by day labour I believe a shilling generally to be sufficient.
6. The properties in the district being chiefly grazing-pens cannot, I think, offer sufficient continuous employment to the people.
7. Although money-wages cannot, as just stated, be continuously offered, I hear frequent complaints made by the pen-keepers of the difficulty of getting the people to give labour in payment of the rent of their provision grounds and pasturage of horsekind.
8. It does not occur to me that there are any laws at present in force calculated to cause increasing want of the necessaries of life among the people generally.
9. Some practical medical as well as educational measures would, I think, be of great advantage.

(Signed) George Hall,
Island Curate, Claremont, St. Ann's.

The Reverend J. S. Wood.

1. There is no distress that I am aware of, except from the present drought and from stealing. A lame black man, who has taught most of the young people about here to read and write, sent to me a

week since for means to buy food, his ground having been rifled of everything. The last three or four years they have robbed him, but not entirely before this year.

2. Setting aside the present drought, I do not consider that the people are any poorer.

3. The people are decently clothed, and I have seen no raggedness. Unnecessary finery is not so much used, in consequence of the rise in price of every kind of clothing, caused by the increased price of cotton.

4. I do not attribute it to distress, but to idle habits, improvidence, and infirmity. As a general rule, it is the young who steal, not the old, who were trained to labour as slaves, but who too often allow their children to grow up in idle habits.

5. In this parish, and I do not pretend to judge of any other, 1*s.* a day is a very fair remuneration. As a favour they sometimes work for less, a proof that they consider 1*s.* a day a fair price.

6. As a general rule they can. I have myself once or twice been asked for employment when I had none to give; but the applicants were not destitute. During the 20 years I have been in this district no destitute person has ever mentioned to me want of employment as a reason for his destitution.

7. They do ask for employment; though many of the young people are idle, and prefer stealing to working. The parents have little control over them; many will not exercise that.

8. From no cause but theft; and I believe that a law intended to check it has been passed this session.

9. I scarcely conceive myself competent to answer this question. If certainty of punishment for petty larceny could be brought about it would go far to do away with it; and if all the idle youth could be found out, and made to work, it would complete the remedy. There are many, too, who will not avail themselves of the means of education within their reach. It would, perhaps, be useful to ascertain how many of those in prison for stealing can read and write.

(Signed) J. S. Wood,
Island Curate, Manchester.

Mile Gully Post Office,
March 7, 1865.

The preceding brief answers are my own thoughts, not having had an opportunity of consulting any one else on the subject since I received the circular.

J. S. Wood.

The Reverend J. S. Hildebrand.

1. I am not aware of any great distress among the labouring classes in this neighbourhood.

2. I do not think the people any poorer than they were two years ago.

3. They dress quite decently, and not unfrequently expensively. Any little falling off in that particular is only such as occurs naturally from the temporary rise in cotton goods.

4. I attribute the increase in petty larceny to an unwillingness in the young population to do any kind of work.

5. For the few hours they will work, viz., at most from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., I consider 1*s.* per day good pay for a man, and 7½*d.* for a woman.

6. They could easily get employment if they could be relied upon for undertaking and keeping to it. The uncertainty of getting labour of course must make work scanty.

7. So far from seeking it, they require coaxing to undertake it. They are incorrigibly idle.

8. I think if pilfering provision grounds is not stopped by some decided severity, they will find themselves short of ground provisions presently, but I do not apprehend any increasing scarcity of actual food.

9. I do not consider the existing state of legislation at all suitable to the general condition of the people. I think we might hope for improvement if the House of Assembly were abolished, and we were governed by a Governor and Council, subject to the Chief Secretary.

(Signed) James S. Hildebrand, B.A.,
Island Curate of Snowden, Manchester Parish.

March 9, 1865.

The Reverend M. W. Hime.

My Lord, Hope Bay, March 14, 1865.

The enclosed circular did not reach me till after the 8th of March. I, however, return it with the questions answered to the best of my opinion and knowledge. With respect to the particulars contained in Section 9 of the questions, I would say that as sin has a degrading tendency in individuals, and therefore in nations, and godliness alone exalts, it is evident that the one great and leading principle in all good and sound legislation should be the advancement of godliness in the nation. To this end, I agree with your Lordship in thinking that our Christian legislation should be brought to bear against the extreme laxity of the social relations of the people. Two methods of effecting this occur to me—

1st. That a grant of land, say an acre, be allowed by Government to every young woman who got married, she being of previous good moral character.

That it be made over to her one year after marriage.

That she shall have only a life interest in the same.

All claim to the land to be forfeited in case of subsequent immorality.

Crown properties of about 500 acres each might be held throughout the island for this purpose, and 20 miles distant from each other.

2d. That marriage insurances be established in connection with Government.

The amount of policy to be made payable at, and not until, marriage.

Premiums to be paid in for at least five years previous to marriage.

Parents should be exhorted and urged by their clergy to insure for their children against they come to maturity.

JAMAICA.

Should the child die whose marriage was insured, the parent to get half a portion of the premium paid.

Your Lordship may be inclined to think that this last scheme, particularly if properly carried out, would prove successful in gaining the desired end.

As to schools, the great difficulty I experience is with the masters.

A good master will soon have a well-filled school; but it is impossible to get or retain a well-qualified man under 30*l.* to 40*l.* per annum, with a house.

I am, &c.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kingston. (Signed) M. W. HIME.

P.S.—In the present moral condition of the people there would certainly be a great difficulty in getting the people to insure; the former scheme would, therefore, I think, be the more feasible, and would come into operation at once. Or both schemes might be tried together. In many places Crown lands are now lying waste.

The Reverend J. C. STONE.

There is much distress; in some cases from want of food, and in many from want of clothing, which is very expensive.

2. Much poorer than they were.

3. The people attached to my congregation clothe themselves as decently as they can, but in several places the boys and girls are almost naked, but this raggedness is caused by inveterate habits of idleness.

4. The cases of petty larceny are confined almost always to the young and strong, who care little for the penitentiary or gaols, and are vicious and dissolute from want of proper education and restraint.

One shilling a day for a man, and 9*d.* for a woman and 6*d.* for young people, is the rate here, and as much as the properties can afford to give.

6. I believe there is generally employment during the greater part of the year.

7. Many seek it, but some prefer labouring on their own small settlements.

8. I anticipate much distress and misery, from the continual robberies in the provision grounds, and an increase of crime, unless the laws, especially against petty larcenies, are made more stringent.

9. Most certainly. Very little is done for the improvement of the people, especially in the neighbourhood of Black River, where there is not even a parish school. The other small elementary schools are of a very inferior kind, and the salaries so small that the teachers can barely exist.

(Signed) JOHN CAMPBELL STONE,
Rector of St. Elizabeth.
THOMAS DORAN, J.P.,
Churchwarden.

Mr. SOLOMON.

1. Yes, very much, and especially among the infirm and old.

2. Most certainly.

3. The people used to clothe themselves decently. I ascribe such raggedness of clothing as I have witnessed to poverty in a great measure, and from the prices for the materials to make clothes.

4. In a measure, but also to the increasing demoralization of the people.

5. In my district 1*s.* per day is the ordinary rate of wages, which I consider fair remuneration.

6. Only partially. Hundreds of people are turned away from the estates on Monday mornings, as there is a greater supply of labourers than there is demand for labour.

7. Most of them do. There are, however, very many indolent people among them, who prefer stealing to work.

8. I do. The theft of growing produce is so extensive that the small freeholders and renters of land are deterred from planting.

9. I can hardly answer this question; but my impression is that no legislation can improve the material prosperity of the people. Better prices for our products would soon restore prosperity to Jamaica, as there would then be more general employment for our peasantry.

(Signed) —— SOLOMON,
Clerk to the Magistrates of the parish of St. Ann.

The Reverend T. BROWN to Reverend H. WEBBE.

Reverend and dear Sir, Malvern P.O., March 6th, 1865.

The Rev. J. L. Ramson has shown me a circular from the Bishop dated 27th ulto. Although no copy reached me, owing possibly to the fact that Henderson's Almanac describes my address as May Hill instead of Malvern, I append categorical answers to the questions in the circular, on which (so far at least as my district is concerned) some light may be thrown by the accompanying copy of a petition, and my examination on oath before a committee of the honourable House of Assembly. These papers might perhaps form an appendix to my replies, as the object seems to be enquiry.

I may add, that three of the sufferers named at foot of the petition were also examined before the committee, and their evidence may be seen at the Clerk of the Assembly's office. The refusal of aid to the petitioners was based on the assumption that answers in the negative to hypothetical offers to these three examinants whether or no they would migrate to other fields of industry were considered a sufficient basis for an unfavourable report from the committee to the House. A slender foundation you will admit, whether the extremity of the petitioners' condition, or the representative function thrust upon them, but expressly repudiated by the examinants (who spoke only each man for himself, on the

subject of proposed migration in the abstract, without the naming of any fixed conditions on either side), be considered.

Out of a committee of seven, only three could be sufficiently interested as to be induced to sit on the committee, and of those three two were the members for the parish. Could there be any more damaging answer to the 9th question of the circular? "ab uno disce omnes."

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. J. BROWN.

To the Honourable HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The humble petition of the Lower Pedro Plains and parts adjacent in St. Elizabeth, Showeth,

That petitioners are residents in that portion of the Island extending from the Pedro Bluff westerly along the sea board for 10 miles, and inland northerly and south-westerly in districts known as New Bomb Valley and Upper Plains.

That these districts are subject to prolonged and severe drought, the staples of cultivation there being corn, potatoes, peas, cassava, on the growth and product of which petitioners depend exclusively for the maintenance of themselves and families, their small freehold or tenant holdings being the only outlet for their industry, in the absence of opportunity to earn money wages by estates or proprietary labour, some of the petitioners eking out a scanty and precarious subsistence by fishery.

That since the floods in May of the present year the districts named by petitioners have been visited by only one seasonable shower of rain, viz. in August, when petitioners availed themselves of it to plant their accustomed seed, which, after repeated failure and replanting, has utterly perished; and at date of this petition there is no hope of any sustentation from the soil so wrought on by petitioners, until in the good providence of God another seed time and harvest return, before which date petitioners and their families must, unless relief be extended to them, inevitably perish.

That some of the poorest of the petitioners resident in the districts referred to are subsisting upon thatch-heart and seeds usually the food of the lower animals.

That the present distress is without parallel in the memory of the oldest inhabitants, and is aggravated by the enhanced cost of clothing, at once acting as a retrograding influence upon adults, and prohibitive of the attendance of children on schools of the district.

That petitioners, in view of these trying and perilous experiences, toning their need to a sharper emphasis than attend the general complaint of decayed fortunes, humbly pray that some prompt and humane provision may be made by the Legislature for breaking the violence of the privations that threaten for the next six months.

And petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

(Numerously signed by the sufferers.)

EXAMINATION on oath of Reverend T. J. Brown before the committee to whom was referred the petition of the residents of the Lower Pedro Plains and parts adjacent in the parish of Saint Elizabeth.

Question. What is your name, place of residence, and occupation?

Answer. Thomas James Brown. I am Island curate of St. Peter's in St. Elizabeth.

Q. Are you acquainted with the state and circumstances of petitioners?

A. I am.

Q. Please state it to the committee?

A. They compose men, women, and children, occupying small thatched huts, with the most rudimentary comforts in them, and subsist upon the produce of the small holdings, whether freehold or rented, on which they grow the staples mentioned in the petition, and have hitherto, within my experience at least (I have only been there for the last two years), subsisted upon the products, whatever they may be; but since the excessive rains in May, succeeded by six months drought, they show and have shown evident traces of destitution, being utterly in want of clothing, and as a general thing they are not able to get anything to eat, their grounds being at the date of the petition utterly barren, although they planted at the usual season the accustomed seed. They live upwards of 30 miles from the centres of agricultural industry. The people number 2,000 browns and blacks. They have no township of their own, and the distressed districts cover an area of about 20 square miles.

Q. On what principle do you advocate pecuniary relief to a body of peasantry who, if they made application to the managers of properties, would give themselves and families all the necessaries of life, provided they would labour on such properties?

A. I have not advocated the principle that any portion of the peasantry able to avail themselves of wages for agricultural labour should be assisted out of the public purse if they are unwilling to avail themselves of employment, but I do not consider the petitioners such persons as are supposed in the question.

Q. What may be the area of land occupied by the people of the Pedro Plains who are seeking pecuniary aid?

A. I have already stated that it is about 20 square miles.

Q. If you were empowered or authorized by the managers or proprietors of properties to contract on their behalf with the peasantry of the Pedro Plains district, do you think that they would emigrate to other portions of the parish on terms advantageous to both parties?

A. I do think they would if it be satisfactorily settled as to what were the advantages to both parties.

Q. Do the inhabitants of the Pedro Plains raise horses, mules, asses, and poultry; and how do they dispose of them? What are their general characteristics?

A. The rearing of horses and mules at present is nothing as compared with the traditional rearing which one thinks of under the name of the "Johnny James ponies." These were raised in the most

Jamaica.

cultivated parts of an adjoining district of the parish. The petitioners are not owners of any horses or mule-kind. If they had at any time an excessive crop of corn they would not get its marketable value, so far are the growers from a favorable market, and so limited the means of getting the production to it. As to their general characteristics, I believe them to be sui generis. They are wedded to the habitations they have occupied for generations; its salubrity being a chief recommendation, in some measure perhaps attributable to the frugal and abstinent habits of the residents. They are loyal and peaceable, and certainly entail little or no cost upon the community for punitive machinery.

Q. You say there are sui generis; a race peculiar to themselves. In what are they superior to the labouring population?

A. I do not mean to infer that they are superior, but that their surroundings are different, and such as to commend them to the special consideration of the Legislature.

Q. Is it not the duty of any free man, before applying for eleemosynary assistance, to exhaust every available means at his disposal before he can expect to receive any?

A. Doubtless.

Q. From your knowledge of them are you inclined to think that they would accept houses and labour, and then the means of earning a comfortable livelihood, away from their present habitations?

A. I believe so; such are their wants.

Q. Is there usually a fair supply of water in the district.

A. There is, for drinking purposes. The pond, with the exception of the great pond, have all been dried by the late six months' drought.

Q. What kind of relief would you recommend? Detail it.

A. I think depôts erected in the central parts of the districts giving relief in kind, whether of clothing or food, but not money, under a discriminating and judicious oversight, would be best. I should say that half of the population would be fit objects for relief.

Q. Is it within your knowledge that overtures have been made to them to contract for labour on properties in the parish, and declined?

A. I have only heard so to-day, and not before. I have been under the impression that the supply of labour in the several localities in St. Elizabeth is equal to the demand in such localities.

Q. And how long and at what rate per week would this assistance be required until they were in a position to obtain a living as they have been accustomed to do?

A. As to the duration, I think four months would cover the need, and 1*s.* value, in bread stuffs or otherwise, per capita, will be a considerable palliation of the distress.

The Rev. J. Brown.

1. The means of obtaining clothing and food are not within reach of the labourers and residents on the Pedro Plains district. They rely on the produce of the soil for support of themselves and families. Vegetation has been threatened with stagnation there for the last eight months, high breezes and a fierce tropical heat prevailing the while. These circumstances have been brought to the notice of the Island Legislature without any amelioration of the distress being proposed, except such as were simply mockery to the sufferers, as quite unattainable.

(A copy of the petition and examination on oath of the curate of the district are sent herewith, and may serve as an appendix to this answer.)

2. Speaking only for the last two years (the period of my residence), when the cotton famine, and American war prices of provisions such as the Island imports, have pressed heavily on the means of subsistence, and in the absence of skilled tillage every year impoverishing the peasantry, and the land deteriorating, and as rich and poor are relative terms, and the requirements of civilized life are in an inverse ratio to the producing capacities of the soil, whether four or fourteen years be the gauge, it will exhibit a gradual decline of prosperity. Pauperism is the rule, and not the exception.

3. The people generally are under-clad. During the week their scanty habiliments exhibit their reluctant choice between rags and nakedness. On the Lord's day seclusion at home is oftener the alternative of appearing in the House of God not "decently." Love of dress and the dictates of modesty conspire to designate poverty as the true cause of this general semi-nudism, howbeit there may be cases of vagrant improvidences explaining the phenomena here and there.

4. The diffusion of property into the hands of the many, instead of the few, as formerly, may have augmented the sources of detection and swollen the criminal calendars, by a process that has practically converted every small freeholder or tenant into a detective, covering a portion of the agricultural area once unguarded; but if it be indeed true that petty larceny is on the increase, its growth must surely be owing to deficient incentives for drawing the productive energies of the labouring classes away from their haunts of furtive spoil into honest paths of remunerative industry, ready to compete successfully with the precarious fortunes of vagrant life. A social-safety valve, and the cheapest system of police, would be to give every man (in need of it), whether by a system of inland transmigrating or in his old habitat, an interest in the usufruct of the soil, so as to swell the body of interested detectives till the whole soil be covered by that unpaid force. Could not much of the idle forfeited Crown lands be turned to account this way?

5. This will depend upon the locality, and also upon the representative value of the currency; likewise upon the temperament and strength of the labourer. No uniform rate can be fixed. Hence the preference shown for job labour by the peasant, who finds 1*s.* per diem (the usual rate) inadequate to his support. It is certainly not equivalent to his toil if he works conscientiously, and too much if he shirks.

6. Not all the people who are willing to be employed, for the simple reason that population, in spite of all that is said to the contrary, is in excess of cultivation, although at present, as each stands related to the other, there may be a glut in one locality and scarcity in the other.

7. It has never to my knowledge been clearly demonstrated to the labouring people that in any given proposition for transmigration a permanent and judicious provision had been made for their

domiciliary and sanitary comfort; and all my knowledge that way is, that only one side of the contract was eligible, viz., the employer.

8. The fiscal laws, which seem to be referred to, imposing heavy duties on imports it might be thought would act as protective of native grown food; and as the whole supply of native breadstuffs, &c. is in the hands of the labouring people, it may seem a paradox to answer this question in the affirmative; but setting aside the fact, that clothing, in a country where none is manufactured, and all imported at duties as high as 12½ per cent., must be provided out of any excess in the market value of food over the grower's household consumption, it must "increase the want of the necessaries of life" to these growers if the fiscal duties remain, or increase as lately, without correlative advantages held out to the masses who chiefly consume the dutiable articles,—advantages for developing the internal resources of the country, and enhancing the marketable facilities and value of the minor staples, chiefly conveyed to places of sale over wretched roads; but further, if these impediments be not removed, they will cripple the institutions for whose maintenance many of these fiscal charges are imposed upon the general consumers of food and clothing. Institutions reared on the pediment of neglected home resources must impoverish the importing country, having the balance of trade so largely against it.

9. A better representation must precede better legislation. The abolition of the 10*s.* registration tax on voting is an augury of good. The old electoral law was simply disfranchisement. The project was suicidal. If a day should ever come when a proper representation in the popular branch of the Legislature is returned, and it can be directed towards improving the means of local inter-communication between the now isolated and detached settlements and the agricultural and commercial centres, not overlooking the obvious advantages in such a country of coastwise traffic by steam, many an uncouth and impoverished backwoodsman would bask in the gleam and sunshine of civilization, and learn honest independence by that best of teaching——

" —— the talk
" Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk
" Of the world's business."

(Signed) JAMES BROWN,
March 6, 1865. Island Curate, St. Peter's, St. Elizabeth.

The Rev. J. A. M. DAVIDSON.

1. There is very little distress among the labouring classes in my neighbourhood through want of food, but the labourers very commonly find great difficulty in providing themselves and their families with clothing.

2. I am of opinion that this people generally in the neighbourhood are poorer now than they were three or four years ago. Their previous savings (if any) have been exhausted; they have not the same facilities for earning money; and they suffer considerably from the depredations of thieves and the trespass of cattle.

3. The people when they appear abroad are generally decently clothed, taking the term in its narrowest acceptation; but their work day raiment is often ragged and dirty. They have never, however, been careful of its neatness and good order for every-day wear. Children may be seen going naked about their homes; and I am credibly informed that young persons are sometimes kept within doors for the want of clothes fit to appear in. Attendance at church and school has been unfavourably affected by this circumstance. Marriages are more unfrequent and longer deferred on account of the people's unwillingness to marry until they can furnish themselves with considerable personal adornment, and provide good cheer for the wedding feast. Meantime it is still too common for a young man and young woman who have just attained the age of puberty to cohabit in an unfinished hovel, where children are born—to die, in many instances, in early infancy, from the effects of exposure and mismanagement.

Such raggedness as I have witnessed I ascribe for the most part to poverty, arising from idleness and improvidence, aggravated, however, greatly by the present high price of clothing, and the wretched quality of the textures which are sold at the prices nearest to those at which the people had been accustomed to purchase.

4. The increase of petty larceny is attributable to a great extent to the increase of distress, but that distress is almost always the distress of a man who will not dig and is ashamed to beg, well knowing that he has no claim upon the charity of his neighbours.

Some practise thieving as a branch of profitable business, having cocoa-nuts or ground provisions of their own, and a horse or mule for conveying them to market; they rob their neighbours, poorer or richer, as it may happen, in order to keep up a regular supply to their own customers. Others resort to robbery, pure and simple, as the easiest and most independent mode of obtaining a living and sharing in the luxuries of life. There are those who rent an acre of land in the midst of an industrious settlement, with no other object than that of obtaining a footing amongst them, and putting up a hiding hut for booty. These people are active on Sundays, and asleep on week days, or, if overmatched at this, they betake themselves to midnight depredations.

5. I consider a shilling a day to be, as between employer and employed, a fair rate of remuneration for ordinary field labour; but I am aware that on account of the extreme difficulty of getting a fair day's work for a fair day's pay most employers will give but 9*d.* a day for ordinary labour, and prefer giving out their work in jobs or tasks, at which higher rates than a shilling a day may be secured by hardworking men.

6. The people of my district cannot, except at pimento harvest, obtain full employment in the neighbourhood, elsewhere than in their own hired provision fields.

7. Some few are ever ready for employment when their fields are not likely to suffer from their absence, others seek it, and that sometimes afar off, when they desire to raise money for holiday making, the purchase of mourning, or such like occasional purposes; but, with a few striking exceptions, the people generally have really no idea whatever of the duty and advantage of continuous labour throughout the workday periods of their health and strength.

JAMAICA

It is a melancholy truth that the young people of the present day are, generally speaking, less inclined to labour for an honest livelihood, and particularly to labour under the orders of others, than the old people who have been slaves, and that the children (especially since the revival excitement) are more withdrawn than they were from instruction, secular and religious.

8. Seeing that there is abundance of land in this district within reach of the labouring population (the quantity of which land is constantly on the increase from the abandonment of the cultivation of large properties),—seeing that the people can easily maintain themselves by the assiduous cultivation of edible roots, corn, coffee, and other minor products, and that there is now no other mode of making a living on which they can safely depend,—I cannot apprehend that they will suffer themselves to be starved off the face of the land. I think that their present hardships may have the beneficial effect of laying the foundation of future wealth in the formation of more industrious habits. Already, I observe a more general recognition of the necessity of relying for support only, under God's providence, upon the fruits of their own labour in their own fields; and that, to my mind, implies a conviction of the need of a more sustained industry, and a hope of obtaining sale for surplus produce. Without any alteration in our laws, I should anticipate that there will ere long be a reduction in the price of clothing, and also that the more industrious of our people (their long suffering, which is great, being exhausted,) would so far overcome their dread of obeah (which is still considerable) as to punish summarily and sufficiently every nocturnal thief caught ravaging their fields.

I fear that at present the people are lowering their standard of the requirements of their position in life, in reference to the education of their children and the comforts and accommodations of their dwellings.

9. I think that the state of the people might be improved by better legislation, particularly by providing reformatories for youthful offenders and neglected children, protection for provision fields from trespass of cattle and from pillage, and by adjudging severer or more lengthened periods of punishment to those worthless rascals who take the bread out of the mouths of men who have earned it, to maintain in idle wickedness their own despicable carcasses.

(Signed) JOHN A. M. DAVIDSON,
Island Curate of Retreat in the Parish of St. Mary.

March 6, 1865.

My dear Lord, Chatsworth, Salt Gut, P.O., March 6, 1865.

I handed your circular yesterday to a Mr. Sharp, a planter and magistrate, and obtained his promise to transmit me his replies to your questions in time for to-morrow's post. He is, unquestionably, (Mr. Phillpotts having left for St. James',) the most intelligent and best informed man in my district. I cannot, of course, know how far his views and opinions on some points may agree with mine, or how widely they may differ, but whatever they may prove to be they shall be forwarded with my answers already prepared to your Lordship; and I shall at least know that I have done the best in my power for the elucidation of truth, though not perhaps for the corroboration of my own sentiments.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) JOHN A. M. DAVIDSON,
Island Curate of Retreat, St. Mary's, Jamaica.

P.S.—I ought perhaps to divulge to your Lordship that, partly as a measure of economy, partly owing to the circumstance that I can extract neither instruction nor amusement from utterances of the Assembly, I take a paper that excludes political news, and am therefore ignorant as yet whether or not there has been any recent legislation upon the points to which I have referred.

Mr. SHARPE (enclosed by Rev. J. A. M. Davidson).

1. The lower orders of this district consist of three classes. First, those who, having some self-respect and energy, either have purchased small holdings of land or rent a tenancy; these keep themselves employed generally in cultivating provisions, for which they obtain ready sales at remunerative prices; their spare time is spent in labouring on the estates. Such, generally, live in frequent communication with some preacher of the Gospel, attend divine service, and have some moral principle. Second, those who live more remote from the above influences, labour as a rule on the estates, preferring the immediate results of prompt payment from their employers, yet cultivate small lots of provision in their spare time. Among these two classes there is no distress from the want of the necessaries of life. The third class dwell in an entire seclusion from any influences of morality, live almost in a state of nature, principally by depredations committed on the other two classes, and on the fruit which a beneficent Providence has scattered ever the face of the country with a bountiful hand, only labouring when driven to do so by the failure of these sources, consequently, when sickness or any other calamity overtakes them, there is abject want and misery among them.

2. Certainly not the "first" class; the "second" in a degree, as the continued low price of the staple product of the country has forced proprietors of estates to introduce a more rigid system of surveillance, order, and economy; and when these are brought to bear on persons who have little or no moral principle, and are exempt from the influences of rigidly executed laws on vagrancy, they lapse by degrees into the ranks of the "third class," who are decidedly poorer and worse.

3. The "first" and "second" classes do; the "third" class, owing to the above-mentioned causes, do not.

4. Causes assigned above, the want of morale among them, or its indifferent substitute strong coercive laws.

5. For skilled labour from ranks of "first" class as cane-hole diggers, woodcutters, trenchers, and

such as are engaged in manufacturing sugar and rum, 1*s.* 6*d.* per day; for "second" class from 1*s.* to 9*d.* per day, and for "third" class, whose labour is almost worthless, 6*d.* These prices for adults.

6. They can readily.

7. The "first" class do, when not engaged in planting their provisions; the "second" class generally; and the "third" class when driven to seek it by want, and especially during crop time, when they can almost live on the sugar-cane, to which they have pretty free access.

8. Most certainly.

9. Decidedly so. To suppose that the same laws which suit a population like that of Great Britain, who are under the influence of so much tending to civilization, will (especially as administered here, with so much leniency,) answer for such a population as are here, recently emancipated, without any antecedents or national posthumous fame, and who are withal so impulsive, is as great a mistake as to suppose that intellectual grown-up men can be treated like wilful little children. Strong vagrant laws, rigidly enforced; a greater number of schools, especially those of an industrial kind, with adequately paid schoolmasters; the introduction of large numbers of immigrants to open up the country more, and give a greater inducement to capital being expended in it. These would give greater security to property, cause a diffusion through the country of more highly educated and civilized people, who would exercise a civilizing influence on the lower orders. In short, vicious legislation seems to be the base of most of the evils supposed to exist, from which the above questions have arisen.

THOMAS H. SHARP.

The Reverend D. H. CAMPBELL.

My Lord, The Rectory, Kingston, March 7, 1865.

I have the honour to enclose answers seriatim to the questions contained in your Lordship's circular of the 27th ultimo. I beg further to take the opportunity of expressing an opinion which I arrived at many years ago as the result of much anxious reflection on the social condition of this Island, and which has been confirmed by all my subsequent experience and observation.

I believe that the distresses of Jamaica arise mainly from moral causes, which I trace up, as to a fountain, to the prevailing neglect of marriage. The great bulk of the poorer classes are born and grow up without the restraints and influences of home and family life; and I believe that no blessing will ever attend a people who are in such a case. It is evident then that the remedy must be found in the appliances of religious education and civilization.

Any sudden or violent change would, in my opinion, be unwise. We want a patient and extended application of the means which already exist, but which for many reasons have been hitherto partially and improperly used.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. H. CAMPBELL.

Answers to Circular.

1. The distress among the poor of Kingston is very great. It appears in its most serious form in a class who can scarcely be called "labouring." I mean the class of poor women who have no other means of earning a subsistence than by needlework, and who find it almost impossible to obtain that kind of employment, and are very irregularly paid when they get it. There are also many poor families who have seen better days, and there are the illegitimate families of women who have been deserted by the fathers with whom they formerly lived. In addition to these, the poor afflicted and destitute flock from all parts of the Island to Kingston, and swell the flood of poverty. Among these there is a great want of the common necessaries of life.

2. I do think that the population of Kingston is poorer than it was three or four years ago, and that this is to be attributed to other causes than the late drought. There can be no doubt, however, that the scarcity and high price of provisions is the chief cause of complaint among the poor at the present time.

3. There is a terrible contrast in this respect among the persons alluded to above. When they go out they dress extravagantly and expensively; at home they are to be seen in miserable rags.

4. I have thought much on this subject, and entertain a firm conviction that idleness and vice (not increasing distress) have been the occasion of the petty larcenies so recently complained of. I cannot speak, however, from any personal acquaintance with the agricultural parishes.

5. I believe that few of the labourers really do more work than would be fairly remunerated by a shilling per day, but they could easily earn more, and it would be worth the employer's while to pay 1*s.* 6*d.* if the work were really performed.

6. I conceive that the great anxiety to obtain labour through emigration proves that there is more employment than labour. I believe this to be the fact, although there is no doubt that many persons declare themselves unable to find employment. I have often wished that I could refer such persons to some particular employer, but this has seldom been the case.

7. Already answered.

8 and 9. I regret to say that I attribute much of the failure in developing the resources of the Island, and also of the general depression in commerce and agriculture, to the interminable divisions which exist among the representatives of the people and the community at large. I am persuaded that this Island will never know prosperity till it begins to follow after peace.

D. H. CAMPBELL,
Rector of Kingston.

Jamaica.

The Reverend D. R. Littlejohn.

1. There is, among a certain class.
2. There can be no doubt of the fact that the people in general are poorer.
3. I have not remarked their clothing to be worse than it was ordinarily. Still, as a rule, it is very indifferent, and often ragged.
4. I believe that in many instances petty larceny may be attributed to laziness in those who prefer theft to work, but in other cases to the want of some employment.
5. One shilling per day for nine hours labour.
6. Not at all times; it is uncertain.
7. Some of the people do, but others (see No. 4) prefer living by theft to labour.
8. Decidedly I do, on this ground, that from the extreme difficulty (amounting almost to an impossibillity) of protecting provision fields from thieves, very few persons will now venture to expend money in planting provisions, the result of which will most probably be that we shall soon be almost entirely dependant on imported breadstuffs.
9. I think that it could.

D. R. Littlejohn,
Rector of Trelawney.

The Reverend T. Garrett.

1. There is no distress among the labouring classes, as is proved by my own circumstances. Last week I had to leave home for Kingston, and in doing so I had to take away a grown-up servant. I endeavoured but could not get anyone to supply his place. The people in the parish grow guinea and great corn, cassava, and sweet potatoes. In consequence of there being no October seasons, their corn almost entirely failed, and the cassava and potatoes were small, they have consequently procured but little from their grounds.

Under any circumstances we depend chiefly for ground provisions on the mountain people; they bring down, for the Saturday market, yams of all kinds, cocoas, and plantains, in large quantities. These are a little dearer this year than usual, but not much. There was a scarcity of employment before Christmas, but they find now plenty to do on the estates, and will, till the estates have finished making sugar; but after that, if we do not get rain, the people will have little to do.

2. The labourers on the estates earn sufficient for their requirements, and they could save a portion for the time of need if they choose; but they are very improvident and reckless, generally; there are some exceptions.

Clothing is higher here than in Kingston; in kinds that are not in general demand much higher; but many go to Kingston to make their purchases.

The people are certainly not richer generally than they were; indeed I do not think there is much difference in their condition. The wages on the estates are not so high as they have been in past years, nor are they likely to be high again, but wages seem to have little influence. If they receive high wages, so reckless and improvident are the people the money goes as rapidly as when wages are low.

I have a long time endeavoured to establish a savings bank in the parish, and hope now, by the help of our late member of the House of Assembly, Mr. Harvey, to have one in operation shortly. By means of the bank I hope to induce them to save money, in crop-time especially. We educate the children of the labouring class, but the parents have not means to maintain them while they are learning a trade. They are generally disinclined to apprentice their children; but when they see the advantages of the apprenticeship system, it is to be hoped they will appreciate them, and come by degrees into the system.

3. The people generally clothe themselves decently, and much better than I see them clad in some other places. Their clothes are better than their houses.

4. I attribute petty larceny in a great measure to laziness; the indolent rob from the industrious.

5. I give a shilling a day to a man, and ninepence to a woman, for ordinary field labour; they are worth this, if they are followed, but a man left to himself will scarcely earn sixpence a day. If a man would work well without being looked after I would willingly give 1*s.* 3*d.* Two young men from the mountains could not get work at the commencement of crop on an estate. I gave them employment at a shilling a day, but they were not satisfied, and did not work out the week. They said they earned 2*s.* 6*d.* a day by carrying canes to the mill.

I give 8*s.* a week to the man who takes care of the cattle and other breeding stock, and would have given him other privileges, but he is indolent. His rudeness is such to me that I would send him away, but if I did I might have to do without a penner, as there is little chance of getting another to fill his place.

6. The people can readily get employment at such wages. In crop-time, if you want a piece of work done, you cannot get persons to do it; they prefer working on the estates even at a lower rate of wages than they get elsewhere; they are allowed hot liquor and to eat canes. It is only in severe dry weather employment cannot be obtained.

7. If the people do not seek employment when open to them, it is through laziness; their wants are easily satisfied.

8. A want of the necessaries of life is not likely to arise, except through drought or revivalism. The year after the revivals provisions were scarce and dear. The laws can have very little to do with the matter. The labouring class live chiefly on ground provisions raised in the Island. They can do without saltfish if they fatten a pig and make salt pork. The only imported articles that are necessary for them are osnaburgh and a few other cheap materials for wearing apparel. The only tax they have to pay besides is a penny an acre land tax.

9. Legislation can hardly be expected to do more for the labouring class than it does at present.

Education, religion, good government, are provided without their contributing scarcely anything towards their maintenance. I cannot imagine any labouring class can be better or more favourably circumstanced than those of Jamaica. No fee is allowed to be demanded of them for any of the ordinances of the church. In this parish there are seven free schools, where their children are educated, and books found them without any charge.

March 7, 1865. (Signed) THOMAS GARRETT,
Rector of Pere.

The BISHOP to Governor EYRE.

Sir, Craigton, Kingston, March 25, 1865.

I beg to thank your Excellency for returning to me the replies of the Archdeacon of Surrey and of the Reverend Messrs. M'Claverty and Clarke, copies of which have been made for the use of the Chief Secretary for the Colonies. I think it material that Mr. Cardwell should be informed of the fact, which Mr. M'Claverty refrained from mentioning, that Mr. M. received last year the thanks of the parochial authorities of St. Andrew's for the absence of crime in his district, in which there is not one policeman. I am not sure that I made mention of this in my letter to the Colonial Secretary.

I enclose the replies of the Reverend D. Campbell, Mr. Angell, and Mr. T. J. Burn, on which my private letter makes a few remarks.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica. (Signed) REGINALD KINGSTON.

Enclosure 3 in No. 18.

Encl. 3 in No. 18.

CIRCULAR addressed to the CUSTODES.

SIR, Governor's Secretary's Office, March 13, 1865.

I AM directed by the Governor to transmit to you a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with a copy of communication enclosed in it from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population.

2. His Excellency will be obliged by your favouring him, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, with your opinion as to how far the remarks contained in Dr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring classes of the parish of which you are Custos, and he would be glad to learn from you whether the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work has varied much in your district during the last few years (stating what the daily pay is now); whether the prices of ground provisions have risen greatly within the same period, or are unusually high now; if work is less easily obtained or less remunerated than in former years; and whether the peasantry generally are less well off or less decently clad now than heretofore?

3. The Governor would be glad to learn also your views as to the causes of any distress which may exist, or of the great increase of the crime of larceny, together with any other observations which the subjects touched upon in Dr. Underhill's letter may suggest, or your own local experience enable you to offer.

4. I am to add that his Excellency will be much obliged by your furnishing your reply at as early a date as you conveniently can, and in duplicate, as one copy has to be transmitted to the Secretary of State.

I have, &c.

The Honourable Custos (———). (Signed) H. W. AUSTIN,
Governor's Secretary.

MR. WESTMORELAND'S remarks on MR. UNDERHILL'S LETTER to the SECRETARY OF STATE for the COLONIES.

Mr. Underhill's picture of the condition of the black population of Jamaica is not a correct one; taking them as a whole, there are no people in the world occupying the station they do so well off, as evidenced by so many of them possessing land and stock to no inconsiderable extent. No doubt the competition with slavery has caused a diminution in the cultivation of sugar, in the requirements of labour, and in the rate of wages, and in many instances an inability on the part of the planter to pay punctually those decreased wages; but Mr. Underhill has far underrated the amount of labour still used in sugar cultivation, and the other sources of occupation. Granted that 30,000 people should annually produce the same number of hogsheads of sugar, I am convinced double that number, the way they work, are so occupied. I estimate that fully 30,000 are engaged in the production of coffee, pimento, logwood, arrowroot, and other minor products. Certainly 6,000 in the cultivation of pens and the tending of breeding cattle. At least 1,000 in the repair and making of public and parochial roads. In this way I account for the employment of 100,000, principally adults, without reckoning one for the extensive provision fields, the carrying of their produce to market, domestic servants, tradesmen, people employed in towns and on wharves coaling steamers, &c.

The last census showed 347,000 black people, of which number, taking Mr. Underhill's estimate, 130,000 may be adults. It is therefore impossible there can be that number "dependant on the provisions grown on their own little freeholds." Local circumstances and seasons have much to do with the demand for labour; in some parts of the Island more densely populated than others, and in dry districts, there is not always employment in the vicinity; but these people should migrate to districts where a greater demand exists, and which can be done at a trifling cost. In the parishes of Metcalfe

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and St. Mary, where my properties lie, the labourers are so well off that they take three weeks' holydays at both Christmas and August, and never work on Saturdays, and in consequence I am obliged to keep Africans and Coolies at a great expense. The field-people turn out to work at 9, and retire at 1 o'clock, and for these four hours' labour they get 6*d.* to 9*d.*, but nothing will induce them to do another task for the same additional pay; and it is only to-day I have a letter from my manager complaining of want of labour, and I have ever paid the people punctually. In seasons of drought employment diminishes, but none starve in consequence; and the increase of our prisoners and paupers is owing, in the first case, to a determination on the part of a vast number (who having been born since freedom have been bought up without restraint or rule) not to labour except for extravagant wages, but prefer to exist by thieving, whilst in the other case the old and infirm, to whom parochial relief alone is given, are abandoned by their sons and daughters, of late years to a wholesale extent.

To say that the people have been starving in consequence of their inability to procure employment, and the means of purchasing food, is incorrect. Below is the average importation of the principal articles consumed by the lower orders for the years 1860, 61, 62, and 63, and the actual importation for 1864:—

	1860, 61, 62, 63	64
Flour barrels	88,955	104,540
Cornmeal do.	16,392	18,128
Pork do.	12,143	10,303
Mackarel do.	12,729	20,219
Alewives do.	4,353	3,414
Herrings do.	34,699	38,711
Codfish, quintals	90,334	69,548

No doubt the high price of cotton goods has checked the consumption here as elsewhere, and the $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. duty which has existed for the last 10 years has in consequence been augmented; but it is not correct that the people go about in a naked state; so far from it, the exception is to see a man or woman in the streets or fields with tattered garments. In their own provision grounds they are seen by few, and there they do wear their worn-out apparel frequently.

Mr. Whitelocke's speech in the Assembly was made for party purposes, and only two years before he had proposed and carried considerable increased duties on articles of food.

In corroboration of my opinions, I annex a letter recently written by Mr. Oughton, a Baptist Minister of some eminence, giving his impressions as to the "distress" said to exist in Jamaica, and to the causes to which such may be traced:—

To the Editor of the "Jamaica Guardian."

Sir,

I have just read your leading article of this morning on a circular recently issued by the Baptist Missionary Society in London, entitled "Distress in Jamaica," and as it is desirable that all the Baptist Ministers in Jamaica should not suffer in public estimation for the injudicious and exaggerated statements of one or two, I beg leave, through your columns, to declare that I have never made any such communication to the Society in England, and further that I do not believe that they are fair and truthful representations of the state of things at present existing amongst the labouring population of this Island.

There can be no doubt that a large amount of poverty exists amongst us, and it is true that the attendance at places of public worship has very much declined, and that dishonesty and crime have increased to such an extent that our prisons are crowded to a degree corresponding to the emptiness of our chapels, whilst new and more stringent laws have become necessary to afford protection to property, but I do not believe that these accumulated evils are to be wholly or principally attributed to excessive droughts, inability to obtain employment, or dear salt fish and calico; these may indeed tend to intensify and aggravate the evils, but the real cause in the great majority of cases is, in my opinion, only to be found in the inveterate habits of idleness, and the low state of moral and religious principles which prevail to so fearful a degree in our community.

As you have invited protests from such Baptist Ministers as dissent from the opinions set forth in the Baptist Mission Circular, I have felt it only just to myself and the public to send in mine, and am

Yours faithfully,
SAMUEL OUGHTON,
Baptist Minister.

East Queen Street, Kingston, February 25, 1865.

I am not aware to what Mr. Underhill alludes when he says, "the small freeholders meet with every kind of discouragement." Their increasing numbers and thriving condition is proof to the contrary, and I am not aware that they pay more duty on their produce than the large planter; taxation is light as compared with other large colonies, and as fairly distributed as practicable.

I do not believe that of late years there has been a large exportation of silver.

I think, as I have already said, that very many of the people born since freedom have been brought up in habits of idleness, and have taken much to thieving in preference to showing any desire to earn an honest livelihood, but that a large number of older people have established themselves as small and even large freeholders, and that their circumstances are improving, and by their industry the export of coffee is considerably on the increase.

It is difficult to devise or suggest a remedy for the existing evil among the first class referred to, but I believe the terror of corporal punishment will have some effect, and by none is its introduction more desired than by the better class of black people.

Education, to which Mr. Underhill makes no allusion in his suggestions for the improvement of the people, if properly carried out, and very much increased in its extent, ought to produce some good effect on the rising generation, but it remains to be seen if the people would willingly pay for it, and take advantage of it if placed within their children's reach.

Mr. Underhill is incorrect in saying that "the sugar land of the Colony is worn out, &c." A vast quantity of it has relapsed into a state of nature, and has thereby been renovated, and requires but capital and labour to make it productive. Were it, as Mr. Underhill states, worn out, how could he fairly hope that "by just laws and light taxation capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, "and employ themselves in the cultivation of sugar?"

Capitalists will not come to Jamaica, and engage in sugar cultivation, when they can go to Cuba, and invest their money in a similar way, and obtain an interest of 17 per cent., as shown by a statement now before me of the result of the operations of a sugar estate near St. Jago last year.

Here at the prices that have ruled the last four years it is hardly possible to make both ends meet. When slavery is abolished, and our own and the Spanish colonies placed on the same footing as regards labour, then we may expect capitalists will embark here in sugar cultivation; and I would wish Mr. Underhill would direct his endeavours towards such a consummation, believing that by so doing he would conduce to the material interests of those whose cause he is ever advocating much more than by making representations based on incorrect statements calculated to lead persons to believe that the black people in Jamaica were better off as slaves than they are as freemen.

March 10, 1865. HENRY WESTMORELAND.

The Honourable Sir B. EDWARDS, Chief Justice, to GOVERNOR EYRE.

Sir, Eltham Pen, St. Catherine, March 31, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication, enclosing a copy of the Secretary of State's Despatch, and also a copy of a letter addressed to him by the Rev. Dr. Underhill, the Secretary of the Baptist Mission Society, upon the present condition of Jamaica, and asking for my observations thereon.

In reply, I have the honour to say that I concur entirely with Dr. Underhill in his opinion that both crime and indigence are on the increase in Jamaica.

That the "emancipated population" are not so well off in a pecuniary point of view as they were some years back, when the price of produce admitted of a higher rate of wages, or as they were during slavery, is admitted on all hands; and indeed I have myself invariably heard the fact deposed to in our courts of law, whenever that question incidentally arose. It is also certainly indisputable that a great deal of poverty, in many cases amounting to destitution, exists. But very few persons here, I suspect, will be disposed to assent to Dr. Underhill's conclusion, that with these people the alternative is to steal or starve; or that the present poverty of the emancipated peasantry—at all events the able-bodied part of them—is occasioned by circumstances over which they had no control. Indeed, by far the most serious charges of larceny are against persons who from their appearance, as well as from what is ascertained upon inquiry, are by no means destitute; and I think it may be received as certain that those who, being able to earn their living, are yet found in a state of indigence, as in too many instances is the case, are so simply because, though able, they are disinclined to labour, even when employment offers itself, or could readily be obtained if sought for.

In every country persons may be found—the hangers-on of society—who live no one, not even themselves, perhaps, can tell how. It is not surprising, therefore, that such a class should exist in Jamaica, though the numbers are, I am afraid, in excess of what might be expected, greatly disproportionate to the amount of its population.

But Dr. Underhill is much mistaken, or has been altogether misled, in fixing the number of labourers engaged in the cultivation of the soil, otherwise than on provision grounds, at 60,000. I am persuaded the estimate would be more correct if doubled, and, including those who do work, though only occasionally, the list would be increased by perhaps some ten or twelve thousand more.

That the present population is abundant to extend even largely the existing cultivation of the Island I am firmly persuaded; but that cultivation is not extended, and more money, though not higher wages, expended for such a purpose, is, I am convinced, attributable to the labourers themselves.

Those that do work might with ease do more, whilst multitudes, idle from their youth up, are apparently without the ordinary incentives to industry; the necessity, namely, of providing for the passing day, which a sterner climate would enforce, or the more praiseworthy motive of desiring to advance themselves in life.

Thus it is that plenty of persons are to be found, who, never handling a hoe or a bill at other times, turn out for a few days, just before August or Christmas, upon the nearest estate, uninvited and unexpected, in order to earn a few shillings to enable them to "eat August" or to "eat Christmas," as they phrase it; and such chance offers of employment in the certainty of the cessation of work for a week or two at such times are rarely repulsed by the owners or managers.

In this way the labour market is deprived of much that certainly would be most beneficial, if it could be depended on; added to which, every Saturday throughout the year, as I dare say your Excellency is aware, is a holiday from one end of the Island to the other. In fact, as a working-day Saturday might, for all useful purposes, be blotted from the calendar.

Sugar cultivation pays but badly, it is true; but as an increased breadth of land under tillage would involve no increase of sunken capital, nor call for any outlay but the bare amount required for wages, there is every reason to believe, in fact I know there are, many who could and would find the additional funds required, and so increase their profits, if only they could depend upon the labour that was to produce them; for a sugar estate, even in its agriculture, too much resembles a manufactory to make its products profitable without continuous and reliable labour, and surely no prudent man can be expected to increase his outlay unless he sees clearly that he can rely upon it.

Dr. Underhill attributes much of the existing state of impoverishment to the weight of taxation, and he seems to fancy that a reduction of it, in the articles of clothing, and perhaps of imported food, would enable the peasantry to live and dress better. It may be, or it may not be, that the expenditure of the Island is unnecessarily lavish, and taxation consequently unnecessarily high; but in order to carry on the government, and to keep up the institutions of the country, a sufficient income must

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some way be raised. The question which Dr. Underhill seems, therefore, disposed to moot is, whether the present amount of taxation, supposing it not excessive, ought to be raised directly or indirectly.

Such a problem is not new, and has been discussed in Jamaica, as in England, over and over again.

At one time the larger part of the Island revenue, except by customs duties on articles strictly luxuries, and which, therefore, except in the case of brandy and malt liquors, but little affected the labouring classes, was raised by direct taxation, and complaints were bitter that the poor were oppressed. Taxation is now almost exclusively indirect, and that mode Dr. Underhill considers open to the same objection.

The "emancipated population" contribute, and perhaps contribute largely, to the revenue by their purchase of imported goods; but unless a man keep a horse or a cart, or inhabits a house at a larger rental than 12*l.*, which very few of the "emancipated population" do, he pays no direct taxes whatever.

The change in this respect was made some years back, in great measure I believe to meet the general outcry; and since it has taken place I have not myself heard, nor was myself aware till I read Dr. Underhill's letter, that the present mode of taxation was objected to as unjust.

The remedy for the above evils,—how to prevent or lessen crime,—how to improve the condition of the agricultural population, is far from clear. An extremely stringent vagrant law seems to offer the promptest and most efficacious means of dealing with both; but such a measure, to make it of real utility, would be too coercive to meet with approval in England, or perhaps to find very much favour here; whilst the attempt to elevate and improve the lower classes by education, besides the objection of being a very slow process, has it seems met with very indifferent success hitherto.

But Dr. Underhill besides complains of the unfairness of the Legislature, not only in respect of unequal, and, therefore, unjust taxation of the emancipated negroes, but also of the refusal to them of just tribunals, and the denial to them of political rights.

In candour, Dr. Underhill ought to have illustrated his meaning by explanation or example, and not have clothed his reproof in such vague and unintelligible terms. For myself I must confess I am not able to understand of what it is exactly he complains.

Taxation, such as it is, applies equally to every one; no distinction is or can be made, and it should be borne in mind that it is not the emancipated population only who dress in calico, or who consume American pork or flour. I know of no tribunals, just or unjust, which affect exclusively that class; and with respect to political rights, there is no pretence for saying that in this Island all are not politically equal. But perhaps Dr. Underhill alludes to the registration tax which a voter is called upon to pay before he can exercise his franchise. I shall certainly say nothing in defence of such a tax, which I do and always have considered objectionable, but will only observe that it applies to every voter alike, and has had the effect, not I fancy intended, of reducing the number of voters, by preventing many, otherwise abundantly qualified, of availing themselves of the right which before the imposition of the tax they constantly exercised.

The "searching inquiry" which Dr. Underhill suggests as to the cause of the existing poverty in Jamaica is scarcely likely to produce the results he seems to anticipate; but it would I suspect show that if England feels disappointed in the failure of the great experiment of emancipation she must in justice take her share of the blame. By reducing the owners of the soil in Jamaica to a state bordering on pauperism England has certainly done much to injure the people she intended to benefit; for what affects the employer must affect also the persons he employs.

Every one must concur with Dr. Underhill in desiring to see the efforts of our small settlers, in the production of articles of exportable value, encouraged and extended. It is a direct and positive advantage to the Colony; and I am inclined to believe that his suspicion of gross and systematic fraud practised by the purchasers in dealing with them has a good deal of foundation. The mode he suggests to put a stop to these misdeeds could only, I am afraid, be partially successful; and the evil seems beyond any specific legislative enactment. I have no cure for such mischiefs but signal punishment upon those who may be proved guilty of them. And I cannot conceive that such delinquents would be entitled to or would receive the slightest sympathy.

But I must altogether dissent from Dr. Underhill's opinion that the manufacture of sugar by the small settlers should be discouraged. On the contrary, it strikes me that the wisest and most politic course is to forward that branch of industry in every fair way.

It is certainly true that sugar in large quantities can be better and more cheaply produced by large and expensive machinery; and this must be so where the culture and the manufacture are carried on extensively and by hired labour. But the people in question make each but little sugar, and the whole of the operation is done by the members and inmates of their families, who, if not engaged in that description of work, would probably be idle. Thus the outlay of money in the production of the sugar is nil, and the profit consequently in proportion larger. Each family, to be sure, produces but little; a few barrels only, perhaps; but in the aggregate the quantity becomes of financial importance. As the produce is for the most part very good indeed, and is usually sold in the Island, it displaces to that extent what otherwise must have been withdrawn from the estates for home consumption, and therefore withheld from the foreign market.

The benefit to the Island by these people's industry is great, and it strikes me it ought to be fostered.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor. (Signed) BRYAN EDWARDS.

MR. SALMON to the GOVERNOR.

Your Excellency, Malvern Post Office, March 28, 1865.

I have sent my remarks on "Mr. Underhill to Mr. Cardwell."

I read them yesterday to the Moravian clergyman here, Mr. Hamilton, who is known to your Excellency. He said in every point, alluding to the negroes, he could endorse my statements.

Some years ago the congregations of the Baptists paid considerable amounts to their ministers. The ministers here have arranged with the society at home to support themselves, and they did well.

Now, the congregation becoming as it were new (the old supporters dying off), and greatly composed of young people who refuse to pay, the ministers desired to go back to the Home Society. This was refused. The present ministers are badly off; they get very little; they can't keep a pig or a fowl.

In this parish there is only one Baptist minister; but there are some dozen negroes who have set up as preachers, and these men take to themselves the loaves which should support the regular minister.

From the regular or irregular ministers Mr. Underhill must have his information. I can scarcely think his correspondents are coloured, though many of them are capable of the communications Mr. Underhill must receive. I know several Baptist ministers, and feel every respect for their ability and zeal, and I regret the difficulty they have in finding the means of comfortable support. They must know the true character of the growing-up negro; that which is clear to so many ministers and clergy cannot be hidden from them.

It appears, then, very strange if the letters Mr. Underhill refers to be written by men the regular Baptist ministers.

I have, &c.

His Excellency the Governor. (Signed) JOHN SALMON.

MR. SALMON'S REPORT.

REMARKS on letter, "Mr. Underhill to Mr. Cardwell," on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent among its coloured population, transmitted by the Right Hon. E. Cardwell to Governor Eyre, Downing Street, January 27, 1865.

It is presumed "coloured population" includes the blacks.

I am not aware that there is any "continually increasing distress of the coloured population," nor do I believe there is any general distress; and if there be now, or there were to come, a want of food (which we call ground provisions, as yams, cocoes, &c.), I cannot understand why, or how, the words "increasing distress" can be claimed for people who will not work for their living, and will not give 20 days labour in their grounds in a year, which labour would provide each person with food enough and with clothes.

Individuals are well known in every neighbourhood industrious, careful, and watchful over their grounds, cultivating an acre of land, and from the produce supporting sufficiently a family of six or eight mouths, working at same time a trade or agriculturally, for the days, weekly, it seems good to each. If the majority will not work, or if working for five hours a day for four days in a week, as is done by field labourers, and completing in this daily time equal to three hours work, be followed by a necessity for food beyond what wages will procure, can this be called distress? In this Island, where a month's usual labour will purchase an acre of land, it is impossible a man of the slightest exertion or industry can starve; he ought never to know want.

I have been in Jamaica 40 years, but neither last year nor the year before, nor for 10 years, have I heard an increasing complaint of distress, except it be caused by the robbery of provision grounds. The only people who might complain, and who formerly did and do now complain and suffer, principally from want of water, is the coloured class (brown), residing in the savannas; but dry and barren as these plains are, the people there have means of keeping themselves alive, and of possessing horses and cattle, and very few apply for parochial or private relief. The negro and his crop, who has every opportunity of providing for himself without hiring himself as a labourer, is neither ashamed to beg nor to steal, at any opportunity he requires parochial relief, though refusing at the time work to maintain him which he is quite capable of undertaking.

No one would deny the effect of drought; but our seasons, as in all tropical climates, average alike. We know we have May rain and October rain, and dry spring and dry fall, every two or three years, severe in rain or drought; but we are not so entirely distressed; we wait for seasons to plant. Our provisions yielding is not of the present year's growth. Cocoes do not bear for a year; yams require eight months, plaintains eighteen months, corn six months, cassava and sweet potatoes six months (growing everywhere and in any season). Besides these provisions there are peas, beans, cabbage, okna, callaloo, and innumerable other helps to living, and others which, requiring no labour, are easily attainable, by theft or otherwise, and which the negro has at almost every time of the year; breadfruit, mango eaten when ripe, and boiled and roasted, and when green boiled; avocada pear, orange, akee, and other fruits growing wild everywhere. It seems to me, then, that if a coloured person chose to provide for himself moderate labour will procure him all the necessaries of life. How is it that now,—that at this time,—which is represented to Mr. Underhill as of increasing distress,—as large an amount of cash is taken over the counter at the stores for requirements for dress and hoops, and bonnets, and calicoes, and ribbons, and boots and shoes, and ladies and gentlemen's saddles, &c. &c., as for many years past, and this in spite of the increasing price? With increased price of imported articles our prices for ground provisions have gone up. Yams from 5*s.* per 100 lbs. to 6*s.*, 8*s.*, and 10*s.*; cocoes from 3*s.* and 4*s.* to 5*s.*, 6*s.*, and 8*s.* These would pay well at 4*s.* Tobacco yields a crop of 50*l.* per acre, sold in the markets by the yard; corn sells readily; pork and fowls in demand; and on a market day, in the country, you will meet the carcasses of five or six hogs of 100 to 200 lbs. each taken to market, and which are sold. It would be a difficulty to find out how a man can complain if it were not known he prefers "sitting down" to the doing anything, and that generally the money he gets for the labour he does is spent in dancing and dress, and segars and pomatums. Noticing these particulars may be said to be trifling; it may be, but they are truths, and ought to be known. If so distressed,—"the continually increasing distress of the coloured population,"—how can be accounted for the large and increasing proprietorship of these persons in cattle and especially in horse kind?—how are they purchased, and how is the pasturage paid where the owner has no land? I myself had 80 head the property of black and coloured people at pasturage on one property. I say then the people as they are are not starving, nor is the negro overtaxed, for he pays comparatively nothing; one penny per acre per annum tax on land, which cultivated will yield 10*l.* 6*s.* If he have a horse for his pleasure or profit he pays 16*s.* per annum, and taking provisions to market weekly carries not less than 10*s.* value.

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Crime does not arise from the extreme poverty of the people; it is caused by a reckless spending of any money got hold of; by a don't-care disposition as to what may come. Crime is not restricted to larceny and petty theft, which occurs every day; but murders are heard of monthly, house and highway robberies weekly, fights and quarrels, maimings and beatings, stabbings and shooting, and generally among the young people, female and male. It is the young people who, as the old men say, are "good for nothing," and will take no "talking to," and "will have their own way" and "follow their own courses." They are the cause of all the distress; the well-inclined suffer by the robbery and destruction of provisions, pigs, poultry, and any article which hand can be put on.

I travel about constantly, but I meet no "vast numbers" ragged or naked. About their own houses or grounds the men and women and children do not wear much clothing; they feel no want in such a climate as this; at field labour, in canes, the woman wears her shift and petticoat, the man rarely more than the trowsers. On Sundays, no well-to-do farmer's daughter is so expensively or so fashionably got up, from the shoe to the bandana head-dress.

It is true in the word "those who grow produce for exportation are very few," but whence is the entire crop of ginger, a large portion of the coffee, and much pimento? Who grows the sugar consumed by all classes of colour and by many white families, the arrowroot, the starch? From whence comes the raw material of all the pickles and preserves which are exported? "But those who grow produce "for exportation are very few, and they meet with every kind of discouragement to prosecute a means "of support which is as advantageous to the Island as to themselves."

Whoever wrote the above paragraph to England must be supposed to have known what was going on here between producer and purchaser. To make the mildest remark it deserves, there never was a statement which so wholly misrepresents. It is well known, in the first place, that no man is more keenly alive to his own interest than the negro, in making a sale of any article he has to dispose of; secondly, that there is a great competition in purchasing his ginger and coffee and pimento; that the merchants make large advances to persons in the growing districts to buy these articles, even before dug or cured; thirdly, it may be so said, not a single negro ships his own produce or runs any risk of loss, but gets the cash, or, giving credit, takes an increased price for the risk: this is his own matter.

If the Customs' revenue equal former years, and with a largely increased duty on articles the coloured population are said to consume, there must be money from some source; the negro cannot be in such distress. The truth is, the proprietor of estates and pens, coloured or white man, is the only person really distressed in the Island. If the taxation be unjust, it is equal on the white and the black, each has the same tribunals, each has the same political rights. If evil be consequent on the proceedings of the Legislature, and the laws be unequal or bad, who makes these laws? Who has authority to amend? Is it not rather that political rights have been granted to the emancipated negroes who can't understand their value, and who are led to misuse them, and that the abuse of these rights has driven from the House of Assembly the few landed proprietors who have escaped the general ruin.

Distrust of outlay here will never be removed from the minds of capitalists so long as it is seen that slavery is fostered and supported as a mercantile investment, returning a large per-centage on money laid out where slave agriculture is carried on. Slavery in our neighbouring islands, and the admittance of slave sugar, every one knows is the ruin of this Island; but yet no voice is ever raised, no attempt ever made, to arrest the importation of the annual thousands of Africans into Cuba, with their average length of life of 6 years, and daily 16 hours labour.

MR. UNDERHILL'S SUGGESTIONS.

1st. There could not be the slightest objection to the strictest inquiry into the points on which information is desired. The clearing up of past mistakes, and the prevention of future error, would be hailed by every gentleman in the Island. That the peasantry have not gained those advantages which ought to have been secured to them by their enfranchisement everybody allows. How could they? Without a day's preparation; free to come or to go, to work or to sit down; turned adrift without guides or directors or control; believing that freedom was to allow their late master's property to go to ruin; to demand 1*s.* where 6*d.* was too much, and then that the proprietors should have the only means of inducing labour cut from under them. The Baptist Missionary Society undertaking such an inquiry will be assisted in every way, on its providing money to carry out the suggestions.

2d. The Governor to encourage growth of exportable produce, by associations for shipping; the best modes of cultivation for articles of ready sale; channels for produce, &c. Let money be raised, and the Society send agents to carry out these recommendations. It is hardly to be expected that merchants or persons here will undertake what they have reason to know now only clears a profit of premium on bills. "Extortions and frauds,"—all assumption and gratuitous assertion to a person who knows the negro. But there is no objection to all this being done by the Society; and let the unequal duties on the produce of the people and on the planting interests be pointed out, and the extravagant charges and local taxation be proved, that they may be equalized. A mere set out of suggestions proves but little and does no good, and may be taken at their value; when the means are provided to carry them out, we shall have some faith in the belief of their necessity, and in the earnestness of those who complain, to have amended what may be wrong.

3d. This is a matter of opinion and assertion. Sugar cultivation is recommended for the capitalist, who has to pay for every hour twice its value, but by the peasant (who does not put one farthing value on his time) "should he discouraged."

One remark may be made, as bearing on the alleged cause of crime, the "want of employment, and the consequent absence of wages." How is the proprietor to employ people to labour who will do nothing, unless watched, from morning to night, on whom no reliance can be placed, and with whom there must be disputes, from unfaithful and ill-done work? How is the proprietor to offer high wages for the production of a staple which slave sugar keeps at 12*l.* to 14*l.* per ton, and on 100 hhds. of which, requiring 2,000*l.* at least to bring to market, he does not make a profit for his family to live on. This is well known, but no attempt is made to put down slavery. If Mr. Underhill's correspondents can prove that land cannot be purchased in thousands of acres for 20*s.* to 40*s.* per acre, and that, if cultivated, it

will not yield ample means of living respectably and comfortably, then this information, brought to him by every mail, would demand very serious consideration.

It is absolutely necessary that some immediate and strong check be put to larcenies. I am convinced that only transportation will have the effect. The white proprietors are entirely prevented the growing of food on their properties; the cultivation of provisions is given up by them; pigs and poultry can scarcely be raised; they are your property, but the negro takes them. It is difficult to credit it, but on one property, Spring Vale, in this parish, the proprietor states his loss of pigs, which he tried to raise to assist in the support of his family, at nearly 100 in one year. Yet the Bill for flogging on second conviction for theft was with difficulty got through the House of Assembly.

We have now had a drought for nearly four months, but I see no want of ground provisions; the price has not been raised in consequence, nor is the train of mules and asses to the market fewer in number. The want of water is very much felt; but though this suffering be certain every two or three years, the negro digs no pond, makes no attempt to provide; he puts himself on the mercy of the white man's tanks till help can no longer be afforded.

JOHN SALMON,
Custos for Elizabeth.

The Honourable L. Q. BOWERBANK to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Kingston, March 15, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your circular communication of the date of the 13th instant, with its enclosure. In reply, I beg to state, for the information of the Government, that the parish of Kingston, as regards superficial area, is the smallest in the Island, at the same time that it contains the chief commercial city and port.

This parish has no sugar estates, plantations, or breeding penns, and but few suburban residences, and none of these with any large amount of cultivated land attached to them.

We have therefore in this parish but comparatively few of the class of persons to whom Dr. Underhill in his letter appears to allude more particularly.

By the last census return taken on the 6th May 1861 the parish of Kingston is stated to contain—

4,007 inhabited houses.
583 uninhabited houses.
49 houses in couse of erection.
540 separate stories or apartments occupied.

Here I may observe that at present there is a great demand for houses as residences in and about Kingston; in fact, they are not to be got; and that rents are higher than they were.

The population on the above stated day was 27,359; being 10,984 males and 16,375 females, of whom were—

		Males.	Females.
White -	4,074	1,922	2,152
Coloured -	9,945	3,768	6,180
Black -	13,337	5,297	8,040

As far as I can ascertain, in the absence of a registration of births and deaths, the average rate of mortality is between four and five per cent. per annum.

As regards the labouring class, it must be evident, after reading Dr. Underhill's letter, that this parish is exceptional in this respect. As before stated, his remarks apply rather to the agricultural labourers, and those possessing lands or provision grounds of their own, of which class very few, if any, exist in this parish or city.

The poor classes of Kingston consist of artisans, day labourers, domestic servants, and the destitute and houseless.

The number of skilled artisans is rapidly decreasing, and in their room an inferior class is springing up, distinguished for want of skill, want of industry, and want of honesty to such an extent that it has been found necessary within the last few years to pass a highly penal law for the punishment of breaches of contract and frauds committed by artificers and others of that class (24 Victoria, chap. 12); and it is significant that that measure was introduced by one of the body, himself a black man, an architect, builder, and contractor for public works, and perhaps in intelligence the first of his class in Jamaica (Charles A. Price, the late member for the parish of St. John's).

In proof of the correctness of these statements, the two leading contractors for buildings in this city (the only two, I believe, competent to undertake any work of importance,) complain that it is almost impossible for them to obtain the services of good and trustworthy foremen, and the master cabinet makers, carpenters, masons, and other tradesmen constantly complain of the wilful, independent, and intractable conduct of their apprentices. No doubt the work of reconstruction and improvement goes slowly, very slowly on, as witness the ruins from the fire of 1862, and even that of 1843, and consequently employment is not to be easily had at times.

Many of these people, of whom there are too many in the city for the work to be done, would find much more remunerative employment as artisans or agricultural labourers in the country parishes, if they possessed any degree of energy and enterprise; but, unfortunately, these are rare qualities among our people, as shown by the number of them who eke out a miserable existence in this city, either as tailors, shoemakers, straw-hat plaiters, cigar makers, &c., and who in the country would do much better for themselves did they not look down upon agricultural labour with contempt.

There is no doubt that the great desire of parents of the lower classes in this parish is to have their sons brought up to a trade, and that they consider agricultural labour and domestic service as demeaning; at the same time they forget that in a limited population there must be a bar to the services of tradesmen and mechanics.

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There is even a great unwillingness manifested on the part of parents and relatives to allow the reformatory boys to be apprenticed to estates and plantations; they prefer apprenticing them to tradesmen in town.

It should be stated that many of the artisans of this city, especially carpenters and masons, left the Island to seek work on the Panama railroad, a great proportion of whom never returned; at present, in case of public work being carried on at Port Royal or Spanish Town, it is almost impracticable here to obtain the services of able and competent workmen, as of carpenters, even at the rate of 3*s.* a day.

The pay of day or field labourers has not varied here; men get from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* a day, women from 9*d.* to 1*s.*

The job work, as fence making, clearing pastures, planting guinea grass, haymaking, &c., continue the same as heretofore.

It is often difficult to obtain the services of such persons, in spite of prompt payment, and over and over again I have known them to refuse to commence work on a Friday, preferring to remain idle at home till the following Monday.

As regards domestic servants, as a rule the rate of pay, especially of females, is not high, although perhaps sufficient for the description of service generally obtained; the general experience of this class, males and females, is that they are lazy, impudent, and dishonest; they are careless and improvident, and lack energy and ambition to better their condition in life.

The rate of pay has not varied much of late years. Men servants ordinarily receive from 8*s.* to 10*s.* per week; women from 4*s.* to 5*s.* or 7*s.*; out of which they have to feed and clothe themselves, and in most cases to pay rent, and sometimes to support a family of children, generally illegitimate ones.

The gross immorality and lewdness, especially of the lower orders of the women, is perhaps the greatest curse with which the city, if not the Island, is affected; and the fearful prevalence of concubinage and unchastity in both sexes, and the state of riot, disorder, and idleness in which children grow up, are among the most prolific causes of distress and poverty.

On several occasions attempts have been made to introduce a Bastardy Bill to compel fathers to provide for their illegitimate children. The attempt, however, has hitherto failed in consequence of the determined opposition offered to it by a very large majority of the members of the House of Assembly.

As regards domestic servants in Kingston, the difficulty is not so much to obtain employment as to obtain civil, honest servants; a difficulty much increased by the too common practice of repressing or concealing faults in characters, and of taking servants without characters from their previous employers.

In a few exceptional cases, such as wharf labourers, head cooks, and butlers, and a few others, the rate of pay is better; and here I should mention the persons, male and female, who coal the steamers; they are employed at times both by night and day, and when so employed are said to make from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.*

Kingston differs from all other parishes in this Island in this respect, that as the chief city and port, and containing as it does the General Penitentiary, the lunatic asylum, and the public hospital, persons from all parts of the country are sent here as prisoners, or insane, or sick; besides which, numbers of others flock here in hopes of obtaining better employment; many of these people never find their way home again, but remain a burden upon the city, under the class of destitute and houseless and beggars, and tend much to swell the catalogue of crimes.

Prisoners discharged from the penitentiary have been in the habit of remaining and prowling about the city, and living by theft and dishonesty.

The hospital, too, has a regular population of its own, consisting of persons who state they come from distant parishes, but many of whom have been resident here for months or years, and who pay periodical visits to the hospital when suffering from venereal complaints or old chronic ailments, or when lowered by excess, or dying from want and destitution.

And here I would observe, that the want of an almshouse for the destitute and houseless is a penny-wise and pound-foolish policy; each of these unfortunates at present admitted into the public hospital (the only resort for them) costs the Island upwards of 46*l.* per bed per annum, whereas in a properly established asylum they would only cost 11*l.* per bed, besides excluding the really sick from the hospital, and frustrating all wholesome discipline, and wasting the revenue.

Through the philanthropy and energy of private individuals, headed by the clergy, small asylums have been established for the reception of the aged and the blind; two such exist at present in Kingston, and are partially supported by Government grants, and an allowance to each inmate by the corporation, but they are too small.

Many sailors are left here as prisoners in the penitentiary, or as patients in the public hospital; these, too, at times become a burden on the city. Very lately, however, through the activity of the Rev. Mr. Cheyne, a sailors' home has been provided, which promises to be a blessing to these men.

At times, also, we have thrown on the parish a number of soldiers discharged from the regiments serving out here, as also the pensioners of the West India regiments, most of whom, in case of sickness, seek admission into the public hospital.

Again, numbers of immigrants, Chinese coolies, Africans, Portuguese, Barbadiens, &c., whose periods of indenture are expired, flock up to Kingston, suffering too often from chronic and incurable disease. These too encumber the public hospital or become a burden upon the parish.

Numbers too of immigrants under indenture find their way into the public hospital; in many instances sent up by their employers.

Add to this persons suffering from leprosy, yaws, and syphilis in their most horrible forms, who come here from all parts of the Island, for the purpose of being admitted into the so-called refuge attached to the old parochial asylum and the public hospital. These persons with leprosy and yaws receive each 3*s.* a week from the parish funds, and are provided with a miserable hovel to live in, and a matron who superintends the cooking of their food; but I regret to say the humanity and propriety of this aid so given is very questionable, as they lead a most improper life of immorality, and too often during the day frequent the streets of the city for the purpose of begging; and I have it on the best authority that

some of them will thus obtain from three to four dollars a day, which is spent in drunkenness and gross lewdness at night. Many of these people may be said to make a trade of their disgusting malady.

Latterly the increase of all these diseases throughout the Island has caused much anxiety, and the latter is now very prevalent in a most destructive form, and I understand it seriously weakens the military force at camp, and must doubtless affect the efficiency of the sailors of the fleet who visit Kingston on leave.

The parochial aid afforded to the poor, not of but in Kingston, is increasing year by year; it now amounts to about 63*l.* a week, exclusive of 400*l.* per annum to medical officers, and a large sum for coffins, graves, carriers, &c., amounting altogether to something like 4,000*l.* a year.

The above-named sum of 63*l.* per week is doled out in amounts of 1*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* to upwards of 500 persons; besides that there is a list of almost as many candidates for such aid; and here it is to be feared great abuses exist, and that such assistance is given to many who neither require nor deserve it, but whose claims rest on relationship or some other connexion of a less reputable nature.

I hesitate not to say that there is, and has been for years past, great poverty and distress in Kingston, and this prevails chiefly among a class of persons, as sempstresses and poor women who have seen better days, and who are incapable of agricultural or hard labour, who are often unable to procure needlework, and who, ashamed to beg publicly, too often drag out a miserable existence, cut short in very many cases by positive exhaustion or by pulmonary consumption, a disease which is becoming a most destructive one in this district. These are, I believe, the greatest sufferers in Kingston; and when we compare the large excess of females over males in this community, as given by the last census, it must be evident that such cases are numerous, and they extend to all colours.

In the foregoing remarks I have attempted to depict the existing condition of the lower classes of Kingston, as they are and have been for some years past.

The working classes of Kingston on the whole are not better off now than heretofore, but the fault is principally with themselves, for not availing themselves of the means of improving and bettering their own condition and that of their children.

As regards the present dress of the poorer classes of that community, it is much the same as heretofore; now, as formerly, persons may be seen in our streets and thoroughfares with hardly decent covering on them; but as regards the dress of the whole, little or no difference is observable; and speaking generally, this may be said to be characterised by slovenliness and rags on week and working days, and tawdiness and finery on Sundays and gala days. Now, as before, the excuse for not attending church for want of a pair of shoes or other clothing is common.

There can be no doubt that the poor and labouring classes in Kingston, and throughout the whole Island, are now suffering to an extent almost unprecedented from the scarcity and high price of food and provisions, and also from the high price of all kinds of clothing; but the long-continued drought, and the deficiency of the usual supplies from the American markets, as well as the consequences of the American war, are sufficient to account for the prevailing distress.

The assertion that such distress arises entirely or chiefly from over taxation, or the inability of the labouring classes to obtain remunerative employment, or to carry on remunerative cultivation of their own lands, is I believe contrary to fact, at any rate as regards the parish of Kingston.

As regards the alleged increase of crime, there is no doubt that this is correct, as testified by the fact that the General Penitentiary, which is intended to hold only some 320 inmates, for months past has contained from 500 to upwards of 600; and all the other prisons throughout the Island have been overcrowded.

As also the fact that the Legislature have at last been induced, by the force of necessity and by outward pressure, to pass a Whipping Bill, and to re-establish a treadmill in the penitentiary.

While on this subject, it is with regret that I feel compelled to notice the violent, brutal, and unprovoked assaults which have lately been made on individuals in the very streets of this city, and not only by night but during the day. This is assuredly a new species of crime in Jamaica.

I am indebted to Henry Jos. Bicknell, Esquire, the Police Magistrate of this parish, for the following summary taken from his quarterly returns to the Governor, and which show the state of crime during the last four years as disclosed by the summary trials in the Police Courts of Kingston.

In 1861 the summary convictions for larceny were				92
1862	„	„		104
1863	„	„		135
1864	„	„		151

Of summary trials of all kinds for all offences, including larceny, assaults, and offences against good order and decency, as disorderly conduct in public, the public use of indecent and obscene language, indecent exposure of the person, vagrancy, &c.,

In 1861 there were		790 cases.
1862	„	1,045 „
1863	„	1,229 „
1864	„	1,438 „

and we fear that for the present year there will prove a corresponding increase.

These figures testify in sufficiently forcible language to the state of crime in Kingston, and are perhaps a truer test of the moral tone of society than the criminal statistics of the Superior Courts.

This undoubted increase and increasing of petty larceny is, in my opinion, far more attributable to idleness and dishonesty and bad example than to poverty or distress.

It is commonly asserted that the offenders have been generally of the young and able-bodied class; but this can be verified by reference to the various prison records.

It is a fact that strikes every one conversant with the proceedings of the police court in this city, that these people are seldom at a loss to find the ready cash to take out summonses and warrants against each other, and even in the clearest cases of guilt to employ legal advisers to defend them.

The question has been asked, if this increase of crime is not referable to increased poverty and misery in the community to what then are we to attribute it?

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My own belief is that this state of matters is by no means a new or sudden one, but that it has been gradually going on for years past, till now it has assumed a magnitude that strikes the attention of every one; and I myself have no hesitation in expressing my opinion that this appalling state of things is due in a great measure to the example set by those of the upper to the lower classes.

It is painful to be obliged to confess it, but nevertheless it is true, that in no community is there so palpable and evident a want of principle in guiding men's actions as in this.

I believe that the conduct of magistrates and others in authority in assuming duties they do not faithfully perform, and in using their authority or influence to the interest of themselves and their dependants, injuriously influences the conduct of the lower orders;

That the generally acknowledged inefficiency of our Courts of Law in respect to juries, and the consequent too frequent and evident failure of justice, influence the lower orders;

That the laxity and improprieties committed by public boards in the performance of their duties, and in executing the trusts committed to them, influence the lower orders;

That the gross and unblushing bribing and corruption often practised by persons of the upper class at elections influence the lower orders;

That the licentiousness and gross perversions of the truth so common in the newspapers of the Island, under the plea of upholding the independence of the press, and which are in too many instances conducted by men whose station in society, their antecedents, their social and moral relations, unfit them to act as censors for the public, influence the conduct of the lower orders;

That the want of principle and integrity which causes gross abuses to be overlooked and denied in the carrying out of our public institutions, till men quarrel and expose the shortcomings of each other, influences the conduct of the lower orders;

That the looseness and laissez-aller system in which many of our laws are carried out, as regards the collection of taxes and the revenue, the punishment of perjury, the justness of weights and measures, &c., influence the lower classes;

That the disgraceful bickerings and battlings for office, and the gross personal and party jobs, committed by the House of Assembly, influence the lower orders;

And my opinion is that so long as the present unsatisfactory state of matters is allowed to remain so long will crime increase.

It is unreasonable to expect that so imitative and cunning a class of men as the lower orders of this community will see their betters in their own way set at defiance all law, justice, and religion to obtain their own ends, and that they will not in their own way follow the example set them to serve their own purposes.

I feel confident that the clergy of Jamaica of all denominations have done their best to stem the torrent, and the present Governor and his several Executive Committees have striven at progress, but alas! as things are at present, we must all be swept away, unless the British Government will intercede, and put an end to the present condition of matters.

Jamaica never can and never will be better till the present constitution is done away with.

The deplorable state of this parish is referable to want of municipal government; the very law constituting the corporation of Kingston is a dead letter, and the common council itself a mere shadow, but under the gloom of which injustice is practised and jobbery committed.

The downward condition of this Island I am thoroughly convinced is owing to the existence of the House of Assembly, a branch of the Legislature for which, in these days, the material to form it does not exist in the Island.

In concluding these remarks I would recommend the perusal of the accompanying Memorial, and Reports of the Physical, Moral, and Social Condition of Kingston, drawn up in the year 1857, and a copy of which is hereto appended.

After carefully re-perusing Dr. Underhill's communication, I would be inclined to express my opinions as follows, without confining myself to the parish of Kingston:

I believe the people of Jamaica to be very poor; that crime is greatly increased; that wages in some places are very low; that the drought of last year, and still existing in many parts of the Island, has produced much evil; that the price of clothing is enormously increased; that taxes are high; that imports are decreased, and produce of all kinds low.

On the other hand, I believe that the poverty of the people is not universal but local, and is intensified by their own want of thrift, waste of time, and idle dissolute habits.

I believe that the increase of crime is to be accounted for, not by the necessity of starvation, or the failure of provision grounds, or want of labour, or deficiency of wages, but from a spirit of dishonesty, love of plunder, idle and improvident habits, want of a just appreciation of the rights of property, laxity of law, and impunity in doing wrong; love of ignorance, vice, and vicious indulgences; and the entire absence of all moral and religious feeling; to which I would add, bad example set by the better class, in an open and unblushing manner, unknown in other British colonies or dependencies.

That the want of rain has been and is still being sorely felt is true, but in districts even where the drought has been most severe the instructed, the industrial and church-going part of the population, are reported to have borne this evil without becoming thieves, without stealing, and without starving; and they are doing so still, living in the hope of better seasons, more abundant and more remunerative times.

That the price of clothing has risen to an oppressive height is patent to all, and confined to no one parish or district of the Island, and yet thousands of the labourers manage to dress as well as ever they did; the idle, the thoughtless, and improvident, always went nearly naked, in the best time. When cotton goods could be bought for 3*d.* or 4*d.* a yard there were as many naked children and ragged wretched adults as now.

To speak of the people of Jamaica generally as naked and starving is simply untrue and absurd; that in some localities there may be scarcity and distress is not confined to Jamaica, but exists to as great an extent at home, and is by no means so increased here as to warrant the conclusion drawn from it.

Taxes are confessedly high, and the duty on every imported article extravagant; but nevertheless taxes must be raised. Legislative wisdom is wanting, and no plans are provided by the Legislature,

and little or no assistance rendered to encourage enterprise or bring capital to the Island. Such measures have been proposed, but have been rejected.

But it is not true that the labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done. In Kingston, as I have already stated, carpenters cannot at times be found; weeks elapse before the smallest piece of work can be done; and then, for a bungling, incapable, and lazy artisan, you must pay three shillings per day. Labour is wanted all over the Island, but the high wages, and little work given for it, causes people to let alone all improvements.

At the Cotton Company's penn near Kingston we have had droves of idle fellows standing all the morning about the gate, or sitting making jokes with one another, while they are higgling about whether they will set to work for 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.*, and then, having spent the best hours of the morning in utter waste, they tend their steps back to town rather than cut wood, or burn charcoal, or dig, or plant, for 1*s.* 6*d.* per day.

So true is it that the great bulk of our labouring people are so inclined to idleness that they would rather sit down and feel the pinch of hunger, or steal, than work, is proved by the fact that house servants, trustworthy and steady, cannot be obtained in many parts of the Island.

That the people are too numerous for the work to be done I do not believe. The Island could sustain a million more inhabitants than it does; there are abundant resources for an outlay of capital, if labour, good and continuous, could be secured at a fair price.

The anxiety displayed by proprietors for an increase of labour by means of immigration, and the readiness with which immigrants find employment on their arrival in Jamaica, shows plainly that the labour market is not overstocked.

The managers of the Boys' Reformatory near Kingston find a steady demand for boys to be apprenticed to estates, on the condition that they are to be fed, clothed, provided for when sick, and to have an allowance of 3*s.* per month provided for their benefit at the end of the apprenticeship.

Jamaica, I believe, surpasses or is at least equal in resources to any place in the world. There are abundant means of prosperity for its inhabitants. All that is wanting on their parts is industry, enterprise, and perseverance to develop them.

We are assured by those best acquainted with the country, that the cultivation of sugar on a small scale, and by a middle and better class of labourers, is rapidly increasing; and instead of discouraging the labourers from following out that line of effort, as Dr. Underhill suggests, I would say it was one of the very best ways in which they can develop their industry.

A friend has just mentioned to me the following facts on this point:—An American workman in a distant parish has manufactured and put up 40 small sugar mills, and is now engaged erecting six more. The rollers and frame are of wood, with iron cog-wheels. They can be made and put up for five or six pounds a set. The demand for mills at this price is more than he can meet, and so pressing is the demand for them that he has at present engaged extra tradesmen in manufacturing them.

The growth of spices, coffee, and cotton, as recommended by Dr. Underhill, in preference of sugar, is symptomatic of imperfect acquaintance with the subject, and of old prejudices. Nothing is so profitable to the labourer who has a few acres of land, and energy and industry, as sugar. He can sell the juice at one shilling per gallon as fast as he can make it, and inferior quality, such as skimmings, to feed hogs, at sevenpence per gallon.

Hundreds of these small mills are already in operation, and they might be so by an industrious population to any extent, expelling poverty, and fully rewarding industry.

On a still larger scale, he adds, I know another person, also an American, who is at this moment cutting down a field of 15 acres of canes, and planting an additional 15 acres.

He manufactured sugar from canes cultivated by the people, giving them ⅔ths of the product if on their own or rented land, taking the canes cut in the field if near by, or if at a distance manufacturing at halves, the people giving their canes and cutting them; he carrying them to the mill and turning them into sugar; the people getting one half, and he the other. These plans not only work well, but the people are comfortable and contented where they exist.

There is no doubt that it is very desirable that the minor products of the Island, such as spices, tobacco, cotton, farinacious foods, fibrous plants, &c., should be encouraged, and that every possible product should be developed; but under the long existing bad system of government, and the justly forfeited confidence of capitalists at home, it is to be feared confidence, neither here nor there, will be restored, till a change in the constitution of this Island is established, the necessity for which every thinking man allows, advocates, and longs for, and which is opposed, as far as my observation goes, only by those who under existing management look forward to personal gain, but who under a more wholesome state of matters would deservedly sink into utter insignificance.

In perusing Dr. Underhill's letter I am at a loss to understand what he means when alluding to the Jamaica Legislature. He alludes "to their unjust taxation of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes." After many years' residence here, and after sitting as a member of the House of Assembly for some three years, I feel bound in honour and duty to express my opinion that the House of Assembly is the curse of Jamaica. Still I am not prepared to agree in the charges he brings against it, unless he can more fully explain his meaning.

Under good government, with more of the paternal and less of the free (*i. e.* licentious), Jamaica might still take her place among the West Indian colonies.

I append a despatch I have just received from Alexander Nairne, Esquire, the Inspector of Police for this city and parish.

I have, &c.

To the Honourable Hugh W. Austin,
Secretary to the Governor.

(Signed) Lewis Q. Bowerbank,
Custos.

P. S.—In describing the state of Kingston I should have alluded to the undoubted increase of drunkenness among the lower classes, and to the establishment of grog shops in all portions of the city. In one or two of these licensed as taverns gross and disgraceful scenes of brutality and immorality were

stated to have taken place, and such as in no other country could have escaped the just penalty of the law.

L. Q. B.

Copy of Alex. Nairne's Letter.

Police Office, Kingston, March 15, 1865.

Sir,

Referring to the Circular addressed to your Honour from the Government with regard to the increasing distress of the peasantry of Jamaica, I have the honour to state my opinion as follows; vizt.—

There can be no doubt that the ordinary rate of wages in the city (within the period of my residence in it) has by no means varied or diminished; on the contrary, a respectable servant gets from five to ten shillings per week.

To the periodical droughts which have recently and still continue to visit this Colony might partly be attributed the rise in the price of ground provisions. I have no recollection that vegetables have been as dear as they are now.

I certainly do not think that work is now less easily obtained than in former years, or less remunerative. If the peasantry would work honestly, I should say that labour would be more remunerative to them; but since the lazy, idle, vicious classes of labourers won't work, they are consequently less well off, and are very raggedly clothed; on the contrary, however, the industrious of whom are generally decently dressed and have a decided predilection for dress and finery.

There appears no rational doubt that very great poverty exists in our midst, and there is no disowning the fact that the crime of larceny, vagrancy, and vice have largely increased, since the authorities of the penitentiaries and gaols can prove most clearly this fearful and alarming fact.

The hopeless depravity of a large class of the community tends chiefly to promote our poverty.

In this city are to be seen daily over one hundred able men, women, boys, and girls loitering about the streets, especially in Port Royal and Harbour Streets, and say they are looking for work, and yet they will not leave Kingston to go to the Porus or sugar plantations.

I have, &c.

To the Honourable L. Q. Bowerbank,
Custos of Kingston.

Alex. Nairne,
Inspector.

I would observe that there is still an old statute in force giving the authorities of Kingston power to transfer any vagrant or idle unemployed person to the sugar estates.

A. N.

Report of the Sanitary Committee of the Royal Society of Arts.

To his Excellency Charles Henry Darling, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica, and their Honours Edward Jordon, Esquire, William Hosack, Esquire, and George Price, Esquire, members of the Executive Committee.

The memorial of the undersigned members of the council of the Royal Society of Arts,

Humbly showeth—

That your memorialists, impelled by a sense of duty which they can neither ignore nor resist, and stimulated by a consciousness that, if in their capacity of the executive body of the Royal Society of Arts they were to remain silent on a subject which haunts them at every step they take through the city of Kingston and its vicinity, and armed as they are with the important information and the almost startling revelations disclosed to them by the able and interesting reports which accompany this memorial, confidently approach your Excellency in Executive Committee, and crave permission to submit for searching investigation and legislative intervention the present condition of the city of Kingston and its environs, with a view to the better establishment and maintenance of the public health, the public morals, and the public safety and convenience.

Your memorialists are quite alive to the fact that they are now treading in a path which has been often trod before by good and earnest men, who have found their toil in vain; that memorials like this, and reports similar to those appended to it, though they venture to believe as to the latter less suggestive, less searching, and far less exigent of prompt attention, have been transmitted to and urged upon the consideration of various authorities, executive, legislative, and municipal, not once, but often; and the seed, however well sown, has borne no fruit. Your memorialists assume not the right to cast censure anywhere; enough for them that they hope to find they have fallen on a more fitting and auspicious opportunity, and that they may succeed where others have failed.

Prominent among the many incontrovertible facts which have moved your memorialists to the action they are now taking stands the alarming information which has been conveyed to them through the sanitary portion of the Report, for which they are indebted to the skill and labour of Doctors Bowerbank and Campbell, that the city of Kingston and its neighbourhood has been for the last few years, and is now, more unhealthy than heretofore; and that a disease of a novel type and of an intractable character, emphatically denominated in that branch of the Report the "New Pest," has of late made its appearance in this city. The causes of this are as multiform as they are disgraceful to a civilized community; for they are not to be found where they most naturally would be looked for and concentrated, namely, in the unhealthiness of the locality, but in culpable neglect and supine indifference. In point of favourable site, Kingston may vie with the proudest of tropical cities; and there is no doubt that, notwithstanding the squalor and the filth which exhale and reek in and around her, at the present moment, under vigilant, harmonious, and energetic local government, and with proper sanitary, reformatory, and police regulations, there is nothing to prevent her taking rank among the most cleanly and salubrious of the cities of the West.

The first class of remedies your memorialists would suggest, though numerous, are self-evident. For many of them there is legislative provision on the statute book, but so feebly have the laws been hitherto enforced that they have in a great measure ceased to be remedial. These suggestions range themselves in consecutive utility as follows:—

I.—The establishment of a permanent central board to keep watch and ward over the health of the city.

II.—A careful revision of the quarantine laws, with a view to render the non-intercourse they contemplate stringent and unavoidable, where it is necessary, and to dispense with it altogether where it is not.

III.—Compulsory vaccination, not only of the infant but of the adult population, under proper medical supervision.

IV.—A rigid inspectorship of the beef, vegetable, and fish markets, not only to the end that the buildings in point of cleanliness, and the means of constant purification, may be made fitting receptacles for the purposes to which they are devoted, but also that the various articles of human food exposed for sale there may be of a wholesome character.

V.—The establishment of an assize of bread, as well to secure the full weight of that necessary of life for the denomination of coin it is intended to represent, as to guard against the admixture of deleterious substances, and more especially against the admission into the market of damaged and unwholesome flour.

VI.—Abundant as is the supply of water in the city of Kingston, no precautions have hitherto been taken to secure that purity which alone can fit it for the all-important part it has to play in the economy of health. The report will show in what the tanks and reservoirs of the Kingston and Liguanea Water Company are defective for this end, as well as the disgraceful use which, in too many instances, is made of the wells of the city, and will also suggest the proper remedies.

VII.—The removal of all manufactures detrimental to health, unless self-consuming of their noxious elements, beyond the precincts of the city.

VIII.—A searching and radical reform of the present system of sepulture, by which the poisonous exhalations of the corrupting dead may be placed beyond the sphere of danger to the health of the living.

IX.—A critical inspection by competent persons of the Public Hospital, with a view to its better ventilation, and the better accommodation of the patients, in point of space.

X.—The complete segregation, in some fitting asylum, of persons afflicted with leprosy, coco-bay, yaws, and other infectious diseases.

XI.—A settled and attainable provision for the poor, subject to no individual favour or caprice, on the principle of out-door relief. This head will be seen to involve necessary, and as regards the individual, gratuitous, medical attendance on the indigent sick.

Auxiliary to these important requisitions, and in order that legislation, in the direction they point out, may not fail of effect, your memorialists further invite attention to the propriety of legislative adoption of the following recommendations:—

First—A census for the Island. Inasmuch, however, as a general and correct roll of the entire population would involve large expenditure and cumbrous machinery, it is respectfully suggested that in the meantime a census be taken for the city of Kingston and its environs to the extent of four miles in every direction, as well as the town of Port Royal.

Second—Registration, under penalties, of births and deaths.

Third—A revision of the Police Law, as far as it regards Kingston and its environs, with the double view of securing the efficiency of that force in point of numbers and physical and moral qualifications, and of providing against a timid, partial, or negligent performance of their duties.

Fourth—A Vagrant Act, which may be combined with an Industrial Reformatory Institution. Here your memorialists offer for earnest attention the valuable contribution of the Inspector General of Prisons, Mr. Daughtrey, which forms the third part of the report annexed to this memorial.

Fifth—A Reformatory Institution for juvenile criminals. These two last steps in social progress your memorialists do not hesitate strongly to recommend, not only on account of their own inherent good and corrective tendencies, but as vagrancy is always attended with idleness, and "idleness is the mother of vice," and idleness and vice are seldom long in companionship without engendering disease, they see and recognize in these Reformatory Institutions not only a grand stride into the very centre of moral civilization, but a large contribution, on preventive principles, to the general health of the community.

Sixth—A rigorous provision against squatting in and about the precincts of Kingston. This might find its proper place in the Towns and Communities Act, or in the Vagrant Act.

Seventh—An inspectorship of roads, streets, lanes, and buildings. The duties of this single office, efficiently performed, your memorialists submit would convert Kingston—which is now, with the exception of a few localities, one wide receptacle of contaminating filth, a monument without parallel of neglect as regards the delapidated state in which the throughfares and buildings are allowed to remain—into a comparatively clean and sightly city.

Eighth—The establishment of a public garden within the parade, which would turn an area of many acres, useless now, except as a place of deposit for all sorts of offal, into an ornamental and salubrious focus of public resort.

Ninth—The appointment of an Island analyst. The importance of this suggestion your memorialists are of opinion cannot be over-rated. The absence of such an officer holds back any advance which might otherwise be made in the science of medical jurisprudence, and lends impunity to the dark and mysterious doings of the obeah and myal man, who now walk abroad in open day, wallowing in crime, and living in luxury, on the ill-gotten gains which their skill in the fascination of fear wrings from the superstitious terrors of their dupes. Indirectly, too, the knowledge of a competent toxicologist might be brought to bear on the detection of those hidden causes of death which it is feared

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too many of the female population of this Island spontaneously risk, for the purpose of procuring abortion. The manner in which coroners and their juries have been baffled of late in arriving at correct conclusions as to the causes of death are in themselves painfully suggestive on this point.

Tenth—An inspectorship of weights and measures. The demoralizing influence, to say nothing of the actual fraud, which must attend upon the habitual use of false weights and measures, need not be enlarged upon. Enough to say, that this corrupt practice prevails to an extent which would be marvellous if it were not strictly true.

Your memorialists might proceed further to epitomize the report they now lay before your Excellency in Executive Committee, but they feel they have done enough, by eliminating from the mass of information it contains those salient points which will fix attention on their own importance, and invite it for those less prominent suggestions from among which they have been selected.

Your memorialists, recognizing as they do the close affinity between the sanitary training and the moral habits of a people, so graphically and forcibly depicted in the second part of the report appended hereto, furnished by the joint labour of the Rev. Mr. Vice-President Watson and the Rev. Mr. Edmonson, respectfully crave attention to the striking deductions with which that part of the report abounds—deductions so irrefutably clear that they cannot be overlooked.

The testimony borne throughout the reports to the depraved habits and the licentious excesses of the young inflicts pain on every mind, and forces on the thoughts the necessity for juvenile reform. And the startling fact that out of a computed population of upwards of thirty thousand souls in the city of Kingston not more than six thousand are in communion with the various churches, if it did not rouse the energies of the philanthropist and the moral reformer, would overwhelm the great mass of apathetic lookers-on with despair of any possible improvement.

But your memorialists entertain higher aspirations. They venture to hope that at the close of the new government which has been so recently and so auspiciously inaugurated, among the most graceful memorials of its footsteps will be found an improved moral, social, and sanitary condition of the people, crowned by that greatest of a country's blessings, the reformation of the young.

With this view your memorialists will spare no effort, shrink from no investigation, share every responsibility, and, if invited so to do, will lend their aid in bringing to maturity any measures which may have a tendency in the direction they have pointed out. They are sensible of every difficulty, financial as well as moral, which must surround any Executive Government when striking at the root of deep-seated and long-tolerated evils; and they see, à fortiori, how much the difficulty must be enhanced in a country so little ameliorated by, though it possess all the institutions of, civilization, and in the midst of a population so heterogeneous as that of Jamaica. But they are of opinion that the fault in this particular lies rather at the door of constituted authority than with the element on which that authority ought to be brought to bear; namely, the mass of the people. This element, so far from being obstinate and irreclaimable, your memorialists consider plastic, under favourable conditions, and well disposed to take that form which will best conduce to the general welfare and happiness. But authority to be respected must be firm, consistent, and impartial; and the favourable conditions of which they speak can never be expected to arise unless a public sense is created that the arm and the eye of the law are never asleep. A vigorous law, feebly administered, so far from lessening the number of offenders, has a tendency to increase them by impunity. This is so with penal laws in general. If too severe for the times, let them be erased from the statute book; if not severe enough, let them be made so. But while retained there at all let them in the name of public responsibility and consistency be strictly administered. It is this want of vigour in maintaining the supremacy of the laws, not in the judicial administration of them, either in the higher or the lower courts of justice, but in the lower executive branches of that administration of which your memorialists complain. They are well aware that while many sanitary and reformatory measures which the appended reports suggest are as yet untouched by legislation, there are nevertheless wholesome laws in full force on the statute book, which meet, and would eradicate, many of the evils of which they complain, were they once brought into and maintained in energetic operation. They would instance as one out of several the "Towns and Communities Act," 7 Victoria, chapter 14, than which the Island laws can boast of none which more directly and more effectively, to a limited extent, takes under its watchful and penal protection the public health, the public morals, and the public safety and convenience. The provisions of this single Act, rigorously enforced, would soon put a new face even on a city like Kingston, uncared-for and utterly destitute of vigilant supervision as she is. Many of the most salutary provisions of this statute are, however, little better than a dead letter; and there is much more cognate legislation your memorialists might point out in no better case.

Your memorialists therefore pray, that where the requisite legislation does not exist your Excellency in Executive Committee will initiate such measures as the pressing character of the evils disclosed in the report which accompanies this memorial demands; and that where the necessary legislation does exist, but is not put in execution, your Excellency will be pleased to issue a commission to inquire into the causes why the existing laws are not more diligently enforced, and to report to your Excellency in Executive Committee accordingly. And if your memorialists may so far presume, they would recommend that for the present, in order that the remedy may be soonest applied where the disease is greatest, the inquiry be limited to Kingston and its environs, including the town of Port Royal.

And your memorialists, holding themselves in readiness to give all the assistance in their power towards facilitating and giving effect to the object of such a commission,

Will ever pray, &c.

WM. IRVING WILKINSON, V. P.	CHARLES CAMPBELL.
JAMES WATSON, V. P.	D. EWART.
A. BARCLAY.	J. EDMONDSON.
RICHARD HILL.	H. J. KEMBLE.
T. H. TIDY.	J. NETHERSOLE.
JOHN DAUGHTREY.	J. A. GARCIA DEL RIO, Secretary.
L. Q. BOWERBANK.	

REPORT on the Causes of the present increased Sickness in the City and its Environs; together with General Remarks on the Sanitary Condition of Kingston.

Kingston and its environs during the last three or four years, as a matter of common observation, has been more unhealthy than heretofore. Persons who for years past had enjoyed complete immunity from disease have, during this later period, been harassed and worn out by fevers of a malarial and intermittent type; whole families and households have been afflicted, and in many instances, in spite of change of air, in spite of medical aid, have suffered for months, thereby involving themselves and their families in great additional expense, and, in the case of families wholly dependant upon a weekly income, exposing them to the endurance of much privation and suffering.

This type of disease has affixed itself to all other prevailing diseases, as is usual in malarial districts, and rendered them more obstinate and intractable; facts observed not only by members of the medical profession, and practically proved to them by the unusual and enormous consumption of quinine and other antiperiodic medicines, but daily noticed by non-professional persons in their domestic care of the sick.

Fevers of an intermittent and remittent form, but generally speaking of a mild and tractable nature, were not previously unknown in this locality, but their attacks were confined to, comparatively speaking, a small portion of the community, and limited for the most part to particular seasons of the year, as its fall and commencement, or to the occasional prevalence of easterly or westerly winds, the latter of which, in their course, traverse the Ferry Lagoon and marshy tracts extending to the sea.

The cause of this increased and increasing evil can only be ascribed to the utter neglect of all sanitary and police regulations, as regards both the city and its environs, by which exuberant and rank vegetation, with its accompaniments, damp and morass, have been allowed to extend their baneful influence in all directions, uncontrolled by any attempt at cultivation, drainage, or clearance of the land, and under such circumstances aggravated, no doubt, by the bountiful seasons with which a kind Providence has blessed us during later years.

Without any recent census of the population of the city, and in the total absence of all general registration of births and deaths (the only true criteria of a city's or a nation's rise or fall), no correct data can be furnished on which to found the mortality rates of the city and its environs; nor would we maintain that as yet our experience would justify us in stating that the increase of malarial disease has added much to the mortality, though we have lately witnessed cases of death attributable to this cause; but we affirm without hesitation that already much individual suffering has been entailed on the inhabitants, and great pecuniary loss incurred by the honest and industrious tradespeople and artisans; and from a knowledge of the history of this disease in other countries we look with alarm to the future, and would strongly urge upon the authorities the necessity of adopting means at once to check the progress of this New Pest.

The city of Kingston, from its position and geological conformation, possesses many and great advantages in a sanitary point of view. Placed as it is on a site gradually sloping to the sea, laid out in two regular and parallel sections of streets intersecting each other at right angles, it extends over a large area of ground, with a population by no means excessive in proportion to its size; bounded on each side by natural gullies or watercourses easily available for carrying off to the sea all surface water from the plain above and around it, it is favourably situated for surface drainage, if not in many parts for underground sewerage; freely exposed to the refreshing and purifying influences of the prevailing and alternating sea and land breezes, which in their respective courses have hitherto been uncontaminated by marshy or other deleterious effluvia,—amply supplied with water from numerous wells, and by means of the Kingston and Liguanea Water Company,—with an abundant and inexhaustible supply of limestone as building or street material, in two directions, the one at a short distance transportable either by land or water carriage, the other further off, but connected within a few yards by railway, and containing within its own boundaries excellent brick-mould,—under good government and scientific and zealous direction, the city ought to be a clean and healthy place, and devoid at least of all the recognized causes of preventible disease.

In spite, however, of all these natural advantages, it would be difficult to find another place of corresponding size and importance in any part of the world under British rule so completely wanting in all sanitary government.

As a seaport Kingston is of course liable to have disease introduced into it from without; and we therefore find on the Statute Book a Quarantine Law, the existence of which, however, we believe, has rather tended to increase the sufferings of the inhabitants than otherwise, and to retard all sanitary reform.

Persons generally are too apt to place unbounded confidence in what is termed quarantine, and to take for granted, rather than to ascertain by personal inquiry whether the regulations and restrictions so termed are founded on truth, and are really capable of effecting the desired object. Under this fancied, this assumed security, which they take for granted protected their ancestors from greater afflictions than did befall them, and hitherto has and will protect themselves, they are satisfied to rest contented, and to neglect all internal sanitary arrangements, which experience all over the world is daily proving to be the only true safeguards of a nation against pestilence and disease.

That the Quarantine Act of Jamaica is defective in principle, that it is altogether inoperative in machinery to do what it is pretended to accomplish, is a fact so patent to any person who takes the trouble to inquire into it, that it needs no further comment here.

Quarantine, strictly carried out in other countries, has been found wanting. As carried out here, it has failed over and over again to exclude disease in an epidemic form; and, among other diseases, it has failed to exclude smallpox.

What, it may be asked, has been the cause of this failure? Inefficiency of the means employed to keep it out in an epidemic form? or neglect of the officers employed to carry out the proposed means?

We would merely observe that the history of smallpox in Jamaica confirms a fact noticed frequently elsewhere. It is this, that though smallpox has been frequently, through evasions of quarantine

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As regards smallpox, experience elsewhere has fully shown that a better and more certain antidote exists than quarantine against the introduction of this fearful malady, namely, compulsory vaccination, carried out with administrative science, zeal, and activity.

The custom hitherto has been to allow all vessels to pratique arriving with cases of yellow fever on board, and to consider this disease as the product of the Island, and therefore not requiring the restrictions of quarantine. Recent occurrences, however, among the steam packets and other vessels arriving from the oft-infected island of Saint Thomas, seem to show that in the absence of all sanitary measures in a port and in a city even this disease may become localised, and thence spread. If, therefore, in the absence of all sanitary measures, quarantine is deemed requisite for the keeping out of other zymotic diseases, it seems a serious question whether we should not be consistent, and follow the example of other neighbouring countries, as America and Cuba, and enforce quarantine on all vessels arriving with cases of yellow fever on board, or coming from ports where this disease was prevalent. But in such case we would suggest that the present restrictions should be very much modified, and be in accordance with the more recently ascertained nature of contagious and infectious diseases.

It would be unnecessary to enter fully into a medico-topographical history of the city of Kingston. The state of the city, together with that of the other towns of this Island, has already been described by the Central Board of Health of Jamaica, in their Report to the Legislature in 1852. We shall therefore content ourselves with a mere statement of some of the sanitary evils and requirements of the city and its environs.

I.—We would observe that there is no vagrancy Act, for want of which the city is crowded with hundreds of lazy idle vagabonds, who have no ostensible means of supporting themselves, who will not work, but beg and prowl about the streets and lanes, and prove a heavy tax to the inhabitants at all times, but in case of epidemic diseases occurring tend seriously to increase the evils.

II.—That there is no authority to prevent persons squatting about the waste lands of the city. As instances of existing nuisances of this kind, we would mention two places, viz., the land extending north and west of the Railway Station, and also the old Brick Yard in West Street, near the Spanish Town Road, both of which are inhabited or taken possession of by a Coolie population, and may safely be described as nests of disease and sinkholes of iniquity.

III.—That there is no Central or Local Board of Health, or any constituted authority to act in case of any sudden emergency occurring either in the port or in the city, or to superintend and carry out the existing laws.

IV.—That the lands round the city in all directions are for the most part uncultivated, and are overrun with young forests of cashaw, candlewood, and poponox trees, with other rank vegetation, which cannot exist long without giving rise to malarial exhalations.

V.—That the suburbs and roads leading out of the city in different directions are overgrown with bush and jungle, and that many of the thoroughfares are much out of repair, and some of them positively dangerous, especially to passengers at night. That in many instances they are made the depositaries for stable manure, carrion rubbish of every kind, broken bottles, &c. That the gullies or watercourses which carry off the flow of water from above and around the city are often, from the same cause, partially blocked up, thus on the occurrence of heavy rains endangering the bridge, and often overflowing the banks.

VI.—That the existing Road Act, as it applies to the city of Kingston, is altogether ineffective, and cannot be carried out. That for want of necessary supervision, and the timely performance of trifling operations, and the expenditure of a few pounds or shillings, parapet walls and bridges, costing hundreds of pounds to repair them, are occasionally destroyed and swept away.

VII.—That the racecourse, which ought to be a place of recreation to the inhabitants "and a lung to the city," is for the greater portion of the year overgrown with jungle, and that the course itself, and the different thoroughfares about it, are in a disgraceful condition. The same remarks are in some respects applicable to the parade within the city, which, with the abundance of water from the Water Company, might readily be converted into a pleasant garden or promenade, instead of being, as it is at present, an eyesore, a depositary for dust, filth, and dirt, and the resort of hogs, goats, dogs, and carrion crows.

VIII.—That when the racecourse, the suburbs, roads, or streets, and vacant lots in the city, are cleaned of bush and jungle, for the most part the vegetation is merely cut down and left to decay.

IX.—That in the absence of any legislative or municipal supervision, the houses are very irregularly built; that some, in consequence, are ill ventilated, and defective as regards the admission of light. That many are in a very dilapitated condition, dangerous to their inmates and to the passers-by; others again, without roofs, or with the rotten shingles covered with decaying vegetable matter, are tenantless. That towards the west end of Harbour Street some houses are in possession of Coolies, who store up in them large collections of filthy rags picked up about the city and surrounding country, the smell from which is often very offensive.

X.—That many walls and defences are so dilapitated and undermined as to be dangerous. That in constructing and repairing fences all sorts of material are employed; the staves of fish boxes and barrels are sometimes used, which, after rain, give rise to most noisome odours; sometimes also the cactus plant, or dildo, as also the penguin, are employed; objectionable as harbouring vermin, and unapproachable in case of fire.

XI.—We would point out also the dirty unpaved state of many yards, containing heaps of manure, grass, &c., and in some of which on market days numberless ponies, mules, and donkeys are tethered, from which there is often no outlet; so that all the fluid portion must either pass off in vapour under a

* Smallpox in England has hitherto always prevailed—it is constantly present in a sporadic form; but we find that its epidemic visitations have assumed a somewhat regular cycle, thus: The great epidemics occurred in 1781, 1796, 1825, 1838.

tropical sun, polluting the air we breathe, or sinking into the gravelly and sandy soil commingle with and taint the water they, the poor, drink. The want of all proper drainage or gutterage for surplus water in yards, the often offensive state of the closed or open gutters which do exist in some houses and courts, the few ill-constructed cesspools to be found scattered about the city, placed either in yards or in the streets and lanes, covered usually with a loose stone, or an ill-fitting wooden cover, and the cesspools or pits attached to the General Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, Barracks, and Gaol, are public nuisances, and ought to be removed.

XII.—Also the overcrowded state of rooms in yards let out as lodgings, which are often very defective in cooking and privy accommodation. In the absence of a fireplace, or in wet weather, charcoal fires, lighted in earthen pots or on tinplates, are substituted, and are used in these confined wooden tenements with the utmost temerity. We would here notice the crowded and confined state of houses and hovels in which sailors are taken into board. In these drunkenness and debauchery reign rampant, and often when a man is attacked with fever he is kept, provided he has money, till symptoms of a fatal nature make their appearance, when he is forthwith placed in an omnibus, and sent to the hospital "to die." These abodes are well known to the profession as foci of disease,—as the centres of yellow fever and cholera cases.

XIII.—That many of the privies attached to houses, and confined in close courts or crammed into the corners of yards, are very offensive and contaminate every portion of the premises, and are seldom, if ever, cleaned, except in heavy floods, when the water, percolating through, fills the pit, and, on subsiding again, carries the soluble parts with it.

XIV.—That the existence of pigsties in many yards, often built against the wall of the house itself, is a great nuisance, not only to the inmates but to the neighbours, besides which we often find goats, dogs, and poultry all huddled together.

XV.—That numbers of uninhabited yards and vacant lots of land are covered with bush and jungle, receptacles for dung and filth of all kinds, brick bats, broken bottles, portions of pottery, oyster shells, old tin pots and pans, &c., some of which are much below the surface of the surrounding streets, in which case, after rains, they become most noisome pools of putridity.

XVI.—We would observe also that the extensive washing of clothes in many yards gives rise to most unpleasant effluvia, besides pouring into the streets oceans of soapsuds, also the dirty and offensive condition of enclosures known as "fishing-yards" and as butcheries or slaughter-yards, and in which hides and ox's-horns are sometimes kept, as also yards attached to retail provision shops, in which empty fish boxes and barrels are often stowed away, and which after rain taint the whole district round.

XVII.—That the presence of brick and lime kilns, soap manufactories, tanneries, sugar refineries, &c., in this city or its intermediate neighbourhood, should not be allowed for the future.

XVIII.—That the practice pursued in some yards since the establishment of the Water Company, of converting the well into a sinkhole or receptacle for dirty water, is highly improper, and injurious to health.

XIX.—That no provision exists for the regular and systematic cleaning of stables, yards, &c., and that no place or places are provided whither all manure, ashes, rubbish, dirt, offal, &c. may be taken, and where the combustible part may be burnt with fire and the rest buried.

XX.—We would notice the irregular projection of piazzas and steps (the latter frequently useless) attached to houses and yards, into the streets and lanes, also the projection of props and supports to keep up dilapitated and falling walls and fences, especially in the lanes, often rendering them nearly impassable to carriages.

XXI.—The absence of provision for the due and regular sweeping and cleaning of the streets and lanes, and removal of all rubbish, loose stones, bricks, &c., for the clearing of weeds and bush from some of them; and we would notice the mischievous practice of throwing cocoanut husks andpear seeds into the streets and lanes.

XXII.—Also the want in many and most of the streets of raised footpaths and paved crossings for pedestrians, in consequence of the want of which in heavy rains all communication from one part of a street with another on foot is prevented.

XXIII.—Also the absence of all attempts to form a regular surface drainage, and the want of side gutters or drains from the different yards and courts the consequence of which is that all surplus water, clean and dirty, all fluid filth of every description, finds its way into; and flows about the streets and lanes, forming offensive puddles in which pigs wallow, and often rendering the lanes impassable to persons on foot. From the same want also the streets and lanes running to the sea are during rains cut up and rutted so as to be often impassable to carriages; more especially is this the case with the upper part of the town, those of the lower portion being for the most part deluged with sand.

XXIV.—That in the absence of some restrictive power, cartloads of stable manure, nightsoil, broken bottles, wood shavings, trimmings from gardens, the carcasses of the smaller domestic animals, with garbage and filth of all kinds, are deliberately thrown into the streets and lanes, there to remain till they are scattered by the pigs and poultry, or devoured by dogs and carrion crows, or are swept down to the sea by some heavy rains. Slops also and dirty water are often thrown from the windows of houses into the street, to the annoyance of passengers, and the risk of life of those riding or driving.

XXV.—That the allowing pigs, goats, dogs, and poultry to roam about the streets and lanes is injurious to the state of the streets, hazardous to persons riding or driving, and most offensive to decency.

XXVI.—That the present system of mending the streets and lanes by filling up deep holes and ruts (sometimes two, three, or more feet deep) with stable stuff, putrid vegetable and animal matter, nightsoil, boughs of trees, &c., and then covering them with from half-an-inch to two or three inches of loose soil scraped from the sides of the street, is futile, and injurious to health, besides being in the end most expensive, as the pigs soon undo it all, and the first rain sweeps it into the sea, damming up the wharves, and helping to block up our noble harbour; besides which the scraping of earth from the sides is only tending to increase the mischief by creating additional pools, and undermining walls and fences.

XXVII.—That while mending the streets and lanes, cartloads of material are often piled in the streets, and there left for days, blocking up the thoroughfares, and endangering the lives of persons riding or driving at night.

XXVIII.—That the practice of leaving lumber, bricks, lime, mortar, rubbish, &c. in the streets during and after the repairs of houses and walls, without enclosing them with any rail or boarding, is improper; as also the practice of throwing shingles into the street when repairing the roofs of houses.

XXIX. That all the foregoing remarks are equally applicable to the roads leading to and to the villages themselves in the immediate vicinity of Kingston, as Alman Town, Hannah's Town, Fletcher Town, Rae Town, and Brown's Town; in fact, after heavy rains such has been the condition of roads and streets that in cases of calls at night we have known medical men, unless they had been over the ground on the same day, obliged to decline going, or to walk the whole way.

XXX.—We would notice also the absence of all provision for lighting the streets, so that, in dark and rainy weather, it is with difficulty that a house in a street, or even a street at the entrance of the town by the racecourse, can be found; also the present imperfect manner in which the streets and lanes are named and numbered.

XXXI. We would also observe that the practice of leaving carts, gigs, drays, &c. exposed at night in the streets and lanes is improper and dangerous. That the letting-off of crackers and other fireworks in the streets and lanes and other thoroughfares is highly reprehensible; as also the practice, especially during the "Butterbird season," of firing guns and muskets in all directions in the different grasspieces in and about the town; as also of flying kites in the streets and roads.

XXXII.—Another nuisance is the driving during the day of goaded and infuriated cattle through the streets and thoroughfares of the city. And we would allude also to the miserable condition of many of the horses worked in omnibusses, and the brutal cruelty with which they are often treated; as also the furious galloping of horses along the thoroughfares.

XXXIII.—That at the lower parts of some of the streets and lanes close to the sea line the sand is systematically removed for the purpose of ballasting vessels, by which holes or depressions are made which are speedily filled up with water, which become stagnant and offensive; that when such ballast is taken from the neighbourhood of the beef market, in consequence of the large quantity of decaying animal and vegetable matter mixed up with it, vessels receiving it on board are rendered very offensive, and unwholesome to the crews.

XXXIV.—That in consequence of the large quantity of dirt, filth, and offal thrown into the sea, and which ought to be removed elsewhere, the smell of the beach is at times most offensive, and that during strong brezes or after high tides this is heaped up in piles, and there left to swelter and rot in the sun.

XXXV.—That at the only public landing place in the city, namely, the beef-market wharf, the steps and rails are removed, making it very difficult and unsafe to land or disembark, in fact impracticable for females to do so. The state of this wharf is shameful, surrounded as it is by pools of dark slimy putridity, arising from the practice of killing turtle, sheep, goats, &c., and allowing the blood to flow into the sea within the limits of the platform.

XXXVI.—That the practice of holding public markets in the streets is a great nuisance, and causes in many instances a great accumulation of dirt and filth. That the practice of blocking up Princess Street with moveable stalls and tables is highly reprehensible, and dangerous to persons driving, especially at night.

XXXVII.—That for want of proper supervision the different market places are in a dirty and beastly condition; that the vegetable market, after rain, is a swamp; and the stalls of the beef market are often filthy, and stained with putrid blood. The selling of fish in the Solas market, where during the hottest part of the day it is exposed to the sun without any cover, is very disgusting, and taints the surrounding district.

XXXVIII.—That for want of supervision inferior and unwholesome meat is often exposed for sale, animals big with young being sometimes killed. Tainted and half-putrid salt fish, beef, and pork are exposed for sale, and are often hawked about the streets and sold in large quantities to the country people.

XXXIX.—We would here notice the sale of stale and tainted meat which takes place in the butchery yards in Harbour Street on a Sunday morning, and would observe that the present system pursued by the butchers of charging the same price for all portions of the carcase appears objectionable. If a higher charge was made for the choice pieces they could afford to sell the inferior parts at a cheaper rate, and thus meet the wants of the poorer classes.

XL.—We would suggest also the necessity of some supervision as regards the sale of bread, such as exists in all large cities and towns in the mother-country. Complaints here are frequently made, both as to quantity and quality of the bread supplied.

XLI.—Here it must be observed that for want of due circumspection great frauds are practised upon the public by the use of short measures and short weights, a practice highly injurious, especially to the poor man, when all the necessaries of life are so high-priced, and one which, when detected, should be punished with the extreme rigour of the law, and the offender held up to public scorn and contempt.

XLII.—We would notice also that the water supplied by the water company is kept in tanks without covers, and is delivered without being filtered. During and after rains the water is much discoloured and loaded with impurities, which on standing soon becomes offensive to the taste and smell. The poorer classes drink this at all times without any attempt at purification.

XLIII.—That the want of all provision for public bathing is a great sanitary evil in a climate of this kind. We fear that at present a large portion of this community seldom feel water on their skins.

XLIV.—We would observe here that in cases of fire taking place in the city, complaints are usually made either of a total want of or an insufficient supply of water, of the absence of the key of the fire-plug, or of the ineffective condition of the hose or engine.

XLV.—That from the great increase of grog shops, which are starting up at the corners of every street, there is reason to fear that the use of ardent spirits and other spirituous compounds is increasing among the lower orders, especially among females of the lowest class.

XLVI.—That the practice of burying within the city is improper, and that of burying in private yards very reprehensible. In and about the city there are many burial grounds, belonging to different creeds and denominations. With very few exceptions, these are very foul, being covered with rank vegetation. The walls and fences of some are much dilapidated, and allow hogs to enter. We would strongly urge the necessity and propriety of closing up the churchyard burial ground, as also the West Street yard, both of which are filled to excess. In fact we are informed by the sexton that in neither of these grounds can a grave be dug two feet without disturbing human remains. He further states that in digging one grave in the churchyard he removed no less than twenty-one skulls, with other bones. That the state of the burial ground at May Pen is a disgrace to humanity, an everlasting disgrace to the authorities, the citizens of Kingston. That it is uninclosed, and traversed in all directions by hogs and dogs; that, with the exception of a forest of aloe plants, there is not a single mark to note the fact that at least four thousand* human beings, relatives and friends of us now living, lie there the victims of cholera.

XLVII.—That the burying or placing wooden coffins, not enclosed in leaden ones, into any brick grave or vault not filled up with earth, is improper, and ought to be interdicted. That the practice of persons opening tombs for the purpose of interring a body, and then refusing or neglecting to repair them, should be provided against.

XLVIII.—That in a climate like this regular hours in the morning and evening should be appointed for burials to take place, and that a restriction should be placed upon coffins being sent to the burial grounds at all hours, and being left there exposed.

XLIX.—That great abuses are said to take place in regard to the distribution of parochial coffins; a matter worthy of inquiry. Complaints, too, are occasionally made of bodies being left to taint the atmosphere of a whole district, because a coffin cannot be obtained in proper time, or persons cannot be found to remove it to the ground.

L.—That from evidence furnished by the sexton of the Church of England there is reason to suspect that interment often takes place too privately and too readily. That he informs us that on an average he buries at least 1,000 infants annually, of whom 400 are said to have been premature, and at least 600 to have died within a day or two after birth, and all of whom, not being entitled to Christian burial, are nowhere registered. And further, that he has great trouble in keeping his underlings from burying on their own account. He also informs us that on an average he buries 50 heathens a year, of whom no record whatsoever is kept. With reference to the number of infants buried we would observe, that we believe the lower classes do not look upon abortion, in the earlier months, as a crime; in proof of which we find that mixtures and plants are regularly sold and exchanged in the Kingston market for this express purpose; and there is reason to fear that many of the so-called nurses and midwives carry on a thriving business by their participation in such atrocities. The frightful increase of prostitution, with all its evils, in the city, during the last few years, calls for a searching inquiry, and involves the question of the propriety of enacting a Bastardy Act.†

LI.—We would strongly urge an inquiry into the coroner's bill, and especially as to the qualifications of jurors, and the formation of juries, &c. It appears strange that at one period, in this city, we should have inquests held without number, and in each, or nearly so, medical evidence deemed requisite; while again, at another period, comparatively few inquests are held, and no, or very few, medical examinations take place, unless it be from the fact that the acting coroner is a medical man.

LII.—We would here allude to a great want, not confined exclusively to this city, but extending over the whole Island; we allude to the absence of a legally qualified and educated person to act as Island analyst, and to superintend medical evidence in criminal cases occurring in the courts of this Island.

LIII.—The want of a poorhouse, or poor village, or farm, whither the destitute, the blind, the old, the crippled, and the incurable may be located and cared for, is a serious evil in Kingston. The present parochial pecuniary allowance is expensive, and of little real aid to the poor; and there is reason to believe gives rise to shameful abuse and malpractices. On this subject we would remark that if possible it would be well if some legislative Act could be passed which should enforce children to provide for their parents and other relatives, instead of casting them on the public care.‡

LIV.—As one of the greatest existing sanitary requirements of Kingston, we would mention the total want of all municipal or gratuitous medical aid for the poor, more especially during the last few months, when sickness and suffering of an acute and curable character has been more rife than usual. The only resorts the destitute and poor have at present are the General Hospital and the Metcalfe Dispensary. As regards the former, it is open to the whole Island, as also to the shipping, and thus its capabilities of relief to the inhabitants of Kingston are limited. This institution, however, under its present statutory constitution, has never appeared to afford that amount of relief to the suffering poor, or advantage to the public, or information to the profession, which might reasonably be expected, under other circumstances, from an institution costing the annual amount it does. The want of all assistance to out-door patients curtails very much its usefulness; and it is to be feared that the present building, that is to say, the greater part of it, from its position, its imperfect ventilation, its want of space, its very faulty drainage and sewerage, is unfit for its purpose. The other institution; the

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* We believe that we should not be far wrong if we stated six thousand.

† We regret we have not at hand a return of the Registrar General of the Metropolis; but if our memory serves us right, the return therein contained of the annual mortality of infants, under the head "Premature and Debility," amounts to from 1300 to 1500. In a table entitled "The Mortality of Philadelphia, U. S.," for the year 1852, we find, under the head "Still-born," 516, the population being put down at 400,000.

‡ In many cases, in the United States, farms have been purchased by towns or by counties for this purpose (of relieving the poor). It has generally been found that the only expense necessary to be incurred is the purchase of the farm, or the first investment of the capital. The establishment after this, under judicious management, has generally paid its own expenses, and in some cases, as I have been informed, has even yielded a revenue to the public.—*Dr. Wayland's "Elements of Political Economy."*

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Metcalfe Dispensary, appears to be a most excellent one, but hitherto its benefits have been confined to a few.

LV.—That in consequence of the non-working of the Bill constituting a College of Physicians and Surgeons, which indeed is at present virtually a dead letter, medical men arriving, and wishing to enter into practice, cannot be legally registered; nor is there in consequence any restriction against illegal and unqualified practitioners, or any restraint upon unlicensed druggists, or the sale of decayed and improper drugs. We would also notice the unrestricted sale of poisons and other deleterious substances carried on daily, and the want of all regulation as to the supply of drugs, or the dispensing of medicines during the night.

LVI. That the want of regular instruction for persons setting up as druggists and acting as dispensers is a serious evil, well worthy of serious consideration under the present paucity of regular medical attendants. The same remark applies also to nurses for the sick and attendants upon insane subjects.

LVII.—Here likewise we would allude to the want of all supervision as regards the practice of ignorant and unqualified nurses and midwives, and to the mortality affecting parturient females, and their offspring, in consequence; as also to the fearful amount of injury often inflicted on them.

LVIII.—We would notice, among the sanitary evils of the city, the publication of the filthy and prurient advertisements of some quacks, by which, to our personal knowledge, the health of many has been injured. Great physical and moral wrong is done by selling the vile poison.

LIX.—It seems superfluous here to allude again to the want of compulsory vaccination, of a registration of births and deaths, and of a census for the city at least.

To the want of all legal supervision, as regards the medical profession and practice, and to the gradul lessening of the number of regularly educated medical practitioners throughout the whole Island, as also the dying off and disappearance of the "Hot-house Doctor" of former times, is to be attributed the decided increase of obeahism over the Island.

That it is an undoubted fact that leprosy or elephantiasis is greatly on the increase in this city, and that at present no proper provision exists for the seclusion or segregation of those who may even desire it. We would observe also that occasionally a case of yaws presents itself, and that the unfortunate sufferer becomes an outcast. No hospital will receive him, and he is shunned and avoided by all.

We feel that it would be wrong to conclude this hasty and imperfect sketch of the sanitary wants and requirements of Kingston and its environs without alluding to the existing state of its Police Force, and would observe that the present number of men to attend upon the city is altogether insufficient, and that they are, therefore, physically incapable of performing many of the duties expected of them. We would also notice that for many months past the force has been much reduced in strength by the numbers attacked with intermittent fever. We would also notice the fact that they are not sufficiently clad, considering the night exposure they are expected to undergo; and further, that the present condition of the majority of the houses used as stations is disgraceful; many of them are perfect sieves in wet weather, broken down and dilapidated, without windows, and devoid of every necessary of life, not to speak of comforts; few of the men are able to have their wives resident with them, and in consequence, when sickness comes, they retire to their own homes, which practice, of course, is subversive of all order and discipline.

Under this head we would notice the want of a regular patrol or watch throughout the streets and lanes, in the absence of which persons are often during the day deafened by the yells and screams of contending parties, and disgusted by blasphemous and indecent language, and at night are frequently disturbed by parties singing and making noises in the streets. More especially is this the case along North Street, and which when practised towards the west end must prove a nuisance to the inmates of the Hospital and Lunatic Asylum. Here also we would include the keeping of wakes and other assemblies for lewd and indecent purposes; practices injurious to the people themselves, and most annoying to the inhabitants, more especially in cases of sickness.

Besides this catalogue of evils, we have others belonging to the people themselves. We allude to their habits and prejudices, opposed as many of them are to the dictates and laws of nature, to civilization and religion; the fruits and offsprings of barbarism, superstition, slavery, and long continued neglect. These all play an important part in causing disease, increasing mortality, and adding to pauperism and wretchedness. It would be irrelevant to our object to enumerate them here (this has already been done in the Report of the Central Board of Health before referred to). Suffice it to say, they are numerous, and body and soul destroying. To remedy them, something more than mere sanitary measures are requisite. We must join hand in hand with the minister of religion and the schoolmaster. Thus, and thus alone united, shall we succeed in freeing our land from the causes of preventible disease, and get rid of that moral leprosy which at present so sorely afflicts us.

In conclusion, we would state our opinion that most of the evils herein complained of are already provided against by legislative enactments, and that they would not now exist had the laws of the land been duly and properly carried out by those whose duty it is to see them enforced. That miserable apathy, that laissez-aller disposition, which so insensibly but so certainly steals over so many of us, so visible in all our actions, both public and private, as to have made us a bye-word among nations, is the cause of all our suffering,—is the reason why this splendid Island, so blessed by its bountiful Creator with a fertile soil and a magnificent climate, has not hitherto prospered.

That remedies for all our evils do exist, we verily believe; however great the difficulties in the way may appear, we feel convinced that they may each and all be overcome. It is not the pecuniary expense that we should shrink from, for our own lamentable experience of the past, and the cheering experience of the present in other countries, prove to us that sanitary economy * is expensive,—is ruinous; whereas sanitary measures duly carried out form the basis of physical, moral, and religious

* Taking economy here to be a less than sufficient expenditure for a necessary purpose.

happiness. It is not, we repeat, the pecuniary difficulty we have to encounter, but it is a far, far greater evil. Would that we could see the standard of moral principle more exalted than it is throughout the length and breadth of our isle; that those accepting places of honour and offices of trust and emolument would remember the responsibility they at the same time assume, and that they, together with us, from Her Majesty's Representative to the lowest menial, would strive to do their duty, each in his own station, not with eye-service, as men-pleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing GOD!

REPORT on the MORAL CONDITION of the CITY of KINGSTON and its ENVIRONS in connexion with the foregoing GENERAL REMARKS on the SANITARY CONDITION of the CITY.

The physical state of Kingston and its suburbs having been fully considered in the former portion of this report, we shall therefore conclude the whole by some additional remarks on the moral and religious aspect of society. We have a strong conviction that good sanitary regulations are closely allied to good moral and religious habits and conduct. That whenever the former are not attended to, the condition of the people morally is affected by it. It should therefore never be forgotten that no axiom in mathematics is more true than this—that the complexion of our minds, and consequently our moral condition, is in a great measure formed by the things around us, with which in one way or another we come in daily contact. Rough manners, ferocious dispositions, brutal habits, and vicious lives, propagate themselves. The seeds of these disorders take deep root in the human constitution, and produce in some a hundredfold where no counteracting influence exists to check or prevent them. If a man lives in a dark, filthy, disorderly dwelling; if his body be hung about with rags; if his eye is accustomed from hour to hour to look upon receptacles of filth, on fetid pools, in which half-starved hogs nestle from morn to night; if he lives in a dark, dreary, ill furnished, worse ventilated hut, into which the light of Heaven never shines,—where men, women, and children, and the youth of both sexes, are all huddled together,—where all decency is impossible, and all the finer feelings of our nature are constantly outraged; if he sleeps on the bare ground, where a mat, or rug, is shared in common with a family of eight or ten persons, of all ages and of both sexes, all sleeping together, with, it may be, the very garments for night-dress that were worn during the day; and all this amid a dense atmosphere rendered unwholesome and unfit for inhalation by the surcharge of carbonic and other pestiferous odours with which the place is filled; we affirm that when all this is the case it is impossible but that such scenes, such abodes, and such circumstances should prove powerful auxiliaries to social debasement, and successful hindrances to the growth and progress of religion and morality. The human mind, amid such depressing and debasing influences, must of necessity be deteriorated; and as long as such sanitary measures are not enforced so as to reach and remove these evils, our efforts to elevate the people, and promote the love of decency and self-respect, must prove utterly abortive. Amongst the prominent causes of immorality is the want of proper accommodation in the houses of the poor. There, as everywhere, misery and crime are the consequence of promiscuous crowding without respect to age, sex, or circumstances, whereby modesty is first destroyed, lewdness ere long usurps its place, all self-respect is lost, the moral sense perverted, and thus the very foundation of virtue undermined. Cleanliness in all its details is a high moral virtue; and wherever this is neglected the morals of the people must be more or less injured by it. Depend upon it, outward filth and wretchedness are pretty correct indications of the impurity and greater wretchedness of the mind. The sanitary condition of a city is far more nearly connected with its moral and religious well-being than is generally supposed. No man can live constantly amid fetid exhalations, amid miserable hovels,—amid the ruins and the debris of untenanted houses,—amid filthy lanes and streets where are amalgamated all the materials of pest and fever and dangerous diseases, without being morally worse for it. The moral contagion of our street markets is such as is fitted to contaminate every mind that enters them; the scenes that are enacted there would be a disgrace to any civilized city in the world.

How can there be a love of home, when that home is the lowest and the filthiest that can be conceived? How can there be a taste for domestic life, when all the ties that bind families together are rent into pieces by violence and discord? How can the family compact be strengthened and secured when every attempt at decency and comfort is systematically neglected? The condition of thousands of our city population, growing up without education, without any moral restraint, without any regard to the decencies and proprieties of life, is deeply to be regretted. All these have a hardening tendency. It would seem as if our city were under no sanitary or moral influence at all. It appears as if we and our rulers had gone back to the barbarism of former centuries. Our very streets cry aloud for reform; they are the most filthy, the worst cleaned, the most atrociously-kept streets that were ever presented to the view of civilized men. Periodically inundated and denuded of all their surface materials, they present a continued series of excavations, pits, holes filled up with stable manure and other filth and rubbish, garnished with broken bottles, cut into deep ruts, imbedded in some places with sand, and forming through their entire length and breadth such a continued line of heights and hollows, curves and curvatures, mud-holes, pools, and puddles, as cannot be described, but all of which exhibit such an illustration of neglect on the part of the local authorities and the police as is not to be matched anywhere in Europe. We have vacant lots of land in the midst of the city, which are, in the very face of the city ordinances and laws, made receptacles and repositories for all sorts of rubbish, as well as the putrefying offal of dead hogs, cats, &c., and rank at the same time with various malarious vegetation. How can such an unseemly outrage of all cleanliness, decency, sanitary and police regulations, conduce to the moral and physical health of the citizens? The want of enforcing sanitary, police, and other statutory enactments, which were passed with a view to correct and put an end to these evils, is one of the grand causes of the moral and religious deterioration of thousands in our city. The very non-interference of the city authorities in attempting to put down the many crying abominations that exist in our midst is producing a fearful effect upon the community and its interests. The authorities themselves by their apathy are thus aiding in the social disorganization that is rapidly increasing on every

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side of us; they are thereby crushing the interests of civilization, checking the progress of religion and morality, and conducing to render utterly nugatory the efforts of ministers and others to arrest the progress and stem that torrent of ignorance and immorality, which threatens to destroy the bodies and souls of multitudes of our fellow citizens. The neglect of the authorities in their own department is imitated by parents in their department, and the consequence is, that numbers of young people are growing up neglected in mind, neglected in body, neglected as to education, neglected as to religion, neglected as to all moral principle and treatment, neglected in everything, in fact, and wilfully given up by by these very parents to moral and spiritual ruin and destruction.

In the large population of Kingston, like all other large cities, there will be found among the juvenile class a large amount of ignorance, crime, destitution, and juvenile delinquency. Among this class there are hundreds between the age of six and sixteen, who have been all their lifetime subjected to the most deplorable parental neglect. These poor children have been suffered to grow up without any attempt to instruct them morally and religiously; they have been reared in utter ignorance of God, their duty, and themselves. Inmates from infancy of the lowest dens of infamy, and accustomed only to scenes of profanity, indecency, and vice, what can we expect from such youth but a life of immorality and crime? The interests of society demand that immediate measures be taken, to recover, if possible, these young people from their present perilous condition. They are involving themselves and their fellow-citizens in an amount of evil which it is fearful to contemplate. Notwithstanding all the means of education in Kingston, there is much reason to fear that the poorer classes of children of the lower orders have not been benefited by them to any great extent. Among those also who are not entirely uninstructed there will be found a lamentable ignorance of the first principles of religion and moral duty; their education has been faulty in this respect, inasmuch as its foundation has not been laid in religion, without which there is no real education. Merely intellectual instruction will not accomplish the object at which we aim; intellectual and industrial training, with religion, should in all their movements and operations go hand-in-hand.

The evils that are entailed upon the inhabitants of Kingston by reason of juvenile vice and crime are very great. Hundreds of young people of both sexes are being nursed in the grossest idleness, a burden to themselves, and a curse to society. Many of these are the children of careless parents, or who have no parents at all, who live nobody knows how, being under no control of any kind, and left without any restraint to do what they please, and to live as they please. These may be seen haunting the railway terminus, the wharves, and landing places of the city; the arrival of foreign steam ships, the shore, the racecourse, the yards and streets and lanes of the city; having no ostensible employment, but spending their whole days in idleness, corrupting and debasing one another by their daily intercourse. These boys and girls are destined to be the men and women of the next generation, and it is fearful to contemplate what shall then be the state of society, when the spring time of youth has issued in the harvest of matured adult villainy. These youths, so far as any provision has been made to meet their case, are lost to all moral improvement. Young as they are, they are already adepts in vice and crime; they live by the wages of iniquity; many of them vagrants, and some of them convicted thieves; the law seems either powerless to reach them, or, if so, its administration is utterly and fearfully at fault. And surely when there are laws and municipal regulations that would meet and check these crying abominations, it is the right and duty of the orderly portion of the citizens to demand why it is that the laws are not enforced, and why it is that they are thus allowed to be set at nought with impunity? Society has entrenched its rights and liberties behind these bulwarks, and if these are assailed we have a right to demand protection and redress at the hands of those with whom the supreme authority is lodged.

Were this attended to, we would not meet with those groups of ragged boys and girls whose career in vice and crime has hitherto been beyond the reach of those who have their eyes and their ears outraged with them. Poor and neglected, they are living as brutes, and with little better treatment. These are already adepts in all kinds of vice and depravity, and practise among themselves and with each other the grossest immoralities, ere yet they have reached the full age of boyhood or girlhood. Living in sheer idleness, they are compelled to steal to satisfy the cravings of nature, or to suffer all the pangs of want and starvation. These poor children can hardly be said, in one sense, to be responsible for their crimes. They are born of ignorant and dissolute parents; their education has been neglected; they are allowed to take these evil courses without restraint, and in some instances are deliberately trained and brought up to steal and plunder to support themselves and minister to the vicious passions of their still more wicked and depraved parents. Surely it is our duty to endeavour by the organization of suitable reformatories to attempt to rescue these poor children from their career of vice, and to use all the means in our power to restore them to an honest, honourable, and useful position in society.

Impatient of restraint, rude, boisterous, regardless of all decency, we are shocked beyond measure with what we see and hear upon the public streets by these juveniles. And this state of things is gradually getting worse. They are corrupting and morally and religiously destroying one another. The cursing, swearing, and blasphemy of mere children baffles description. They seem to vie and contend with one another for a shameless and unseemly preeminence in this abominable vice, and their outrageous violation of decency, religion, and morality threatens utterly to ruin and destroy them. The children of respectable people, seeing and hearing such exhibitions of juvenile wickedness, are in danger of being drawn away into this vortex of wickedness, from which there is no escape. Thus our own and our families' interests are deeply concerned; and it behoves every right-minded citizen to lift up his voice and put forth all his influence, both in private and in public, to put an end for ever to all such crying abominatons.

The unrestrained licence of a portion of the youth of Kingston has given them a kind of premature mock spirit of regardless men. They assume the airs and the manners of our criminal adults, and with all the boisterous unblushingness of maturity in wrong doing, do they resist advice and retort rebuke, and behave as utterly insensible to shame or to public opinion. Imitating the airs and the blackguard-

ism of older persons, they swear, swagger, and fight, bluster and blaspheme, with a volubility and a recklessness such as is most painful to witness. Many of the mere children of Kingston are in their outward conduct on the streets and lanes of the city little better than a moral pestilence. Modesty and shame are fast dying out; selfishness and doggedness are growing around us, and under their shade every mean vice flourishes. All moral training is utterly wanting; among this class it is a thing utterly unknown. Their parents know nothing of it, and as they go to no school and attend no church they are left in utter ignorance of what morality and religion is. Within reach of our dwellings are many growing up, not only ignorant as heathens, but in their unrestrained tempers as ferocious as savages.

Nor are matters much better—nay, they are worse—among a large portion of the adult population. Sunk into the lowest state of poverty, they have relapsed into a sort of semi-barbarism, in which the consolations of religion and the blessings of morality are either forgetten or unknown. Ignorance and improvidence, and in some instances, we fear, intemperance have prevailed upon them to discard all attempts at improvement of their condition; and thus education, the Sabbath, good company, and good books, are all disregarded. It is surely an appalling fact that out of a population of at least 30,000, there should not be found more members in all the churches in Kingston than between six and seven thousand. The churches of all denominations were never worse attended than they are at present. However this may be accounted for, it is a fearful thing to know that in all the churches of every denomination there are not more than six or seven thousand church-going people, out of a population of 30,000. There are not less than from 20,000 to 25,000 of our fellow-citizens who never enter any place of worship. Multitudes spend the day in a way utterly at variance with its sacred design; they lounge away the Sabbath in idle gossip; in groups they assemble in each others' yards and houses; sit in idleness and little gangs at doors and windows; with no books, no means of improvement, regardless of opinion; and not unfrequently will it be found, we believe, that many make no distinction of the day at all, but carry on their worldly concerns the same as on other days.

The crowds of bastard children that are brought to the churches of the establishment for baptism show how sadly the marriage ordinance is neglected, and the multitudes that are still living in the sin of open and unblushing fornication. The prevalence of this sin we believe to be beyond all our surmises on this head.

Another evil that requires immediate correction is the absence of all supervision of weights and measures. An inspector of this department is loudly called for. We believe that the poor of this city are terrible sufferers by the absence of such a superintendence as this department demands. It is a distressing thing that the hard-earned pittance of the poor, and the scanty wages of the artisan and mechanic, should be still more reduced by the prevalence of unjust weights and false measures. We can conceive no greater hardship than this; and surely the interest of our labouring population demands that an effort be made to deliver them from the consequences of such gross injustice. If there be an inspector of weights and measures, why is it that he is so seldom seen or heard of? He ought to be incessantly engaged in protecting the citizens from such gross impositions as we fear are practised in this direction. The weight of bread, as well as the quality of bread, calls loudly for redress; this is a question in which every citizen is personally interested, and in no country but this could such barefaced imposition be tolerated for a single day. The immorality of such conduct is obvious from the command of God, given to the ancient Jews, and from his own express intimation of his abhorrence of such conduct:—"Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers weights, a great and a small. But thou shalt "have in thy house a perfect and a just weight, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have, that thy "days may be lengthened in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." Divers weights and divers measures, both of them, are an abomination to the Lord.

Another grievous evil, deeply affecting the moral as well as the physical health of the public, is the state of our churchyards; these are a real disgrace to the city. In other countries, the abodes of the dead are kept with jealous care, and some of them rendered by art at once an ornament to their cities, and a place of pleasant resort for those whose departed relatives and friends still live in their remembrance, and where at times they can resort for useful reflection, on the shortness of time, and the vanity of all that does not tell with usefulness on eternity. It will scarcely be credited that some of these churchyards are so shockingly neglected that they are rank with bush—covered with cashaw trees, —some of them growing out of the very graves, where lie the bones of those who once were citizens, who contributed to the expenses of the city, and are entitled to better things at our hands. Hogs, and dogs, and goats revel among the relics of the departed, and an effluvia, dangerous to the health of the city, and disgusting to the feelings of the citizens, is being constantly emitted from these places. In the cholera ground, where lie some of the most useful citizens that Kingston ever had,—men who fell victims to their zeal in their humane efforts to arrest the progress of the fell destroyer among their fellow citizens,—their graves are not only neglected, but the approach to them is rendered impenetrable by bush and jungle. Not only does no public monument mark the spot where they lie, but the place itself is hid from observation by the growth of all sorts of rank vegetation, where unclean animals roam at will without molestation. Surely, unless we are willing to abandon all claims to civilization, we ought to see that all such abuses be corrected.

We have to lament dishonesty, idleness, indolence, as well as lewdness, as prevailing in the midst of us. We have to mourn over shameless scenes of prostitution; numbers of women and girls who live by the wages of vice and infamy. We have to deplore the existence in our midst of numerous houses of ill-fame, haunts of desperate vice and sin, where gambling, fighting, drinking, and all their concomitants of lewdness and immorality are carried on. And connected with these houses are boys who are employed to attend the arrival of American and other steam ships, and to conduct the strangers that arrive in our city to those dens of infamy. These boys are called "pilots," and ply their infernal trade with a zeal and audacity worthy of a better cause. Perhaps no country on the face of the earth presents so gross a feature of moral deterioration as this. Is there no law to put down such crying infamy?

We fear that multitudes of the merest youths of both sexes are here sunk in the vortex of uncleanness; vice is here not ashamed. Fornication, concubinage, and adultery still prevail in our midst, while the coarseness of the manners and behaviour of some portions of the lower classes shows how far they have already gone in the ways of vice and sin.

Before concluding this report, allow us to point out another great source of moral contamination, which is in constant vital activity, and which is producing terrible ravages in our community. Unless some measures are taken to put an end to this cause of vice and demoralization, it is vain to expect any moral improvement among certain classes of the community. We refer to the conduct of the black soldiers, who are let loose every evening from the camp and barracks, and who immediately repair to the rum shops and to the lowest dens of prostitution in the city. So abominably common has this conduct become, that the streets and highways are infested with hordes of the lowest prostitutes, abandoned to all shame, who join these bands of soldiers, walk with them, laugh with them, jeer and fight with them, and concentrate upon that locality an amount of obscenity and wickedness which is most painful to witness. Is there no police regulation that would prevent these abandoned idle women from outraging all decency, following these soldiers in their very walks, their breasts, shoulders, and arms exposed and bare, the bodies of their tawdry gowns dangling in remnants, and fluttering in the wind, like flags hung out to intimate their trade and occupation, or as signals to emblazon their disgrace? What an example is this to the young of this city; and is it to be endured that the men who are appointed and paid for being the protectors of the country should themselves become the chief instruments of its demoralization, diffusing among our city population the uncleanness, the heathenism, and the wretched barbarism of Africa? It is not our purpose in this respect to investigate the general causes of these evils, or to suggest remedies for them, but to show that they do exist, and that they cry aloud for immediate redress. The provision and application of the proper remedies is with the constituted authorities; by the stern application of existing laws; by the provision of additional enactments where these are wanting; and by the inauguration of such educational, social, and reformatory measures as shall by the Divine blessing be suitable to the suppression and entire removal of these evils from our midst.

The manner in which ignorant parents bring up their children is faulty in the extreme; their punishments are often unreasonably harsh and severe, and this too for the merest trifles. This has a hardening effect upon children, destroys all sense of kindness, and steels them to all sympathy.

To lessen or altogether remove these crying evils is one of the highest works of Christian usefulness, and has peculiar claims upon a society, constituted for the very purpose of promoting the industrial and moral progress of the Colony. It is to the Legislature, co-operating with such a society as this, that the friends of juvenile reformotary schools look for assistance and encouragement in their work. It is the province of such schools as these, to raise from the very lowest abyss of moral and spiritual destitution the dregs of society, to form honest and industrious men and women out of them, and to make those who have been pests and a burthen become useful members of the community.

Thus we have very briefly touched on a few of the most obvious points connected with the state of morals and religion among the destitute classes of Kingston. These, together with the absence of all sanitary and police regulations, present a picture of an anti-social state that would be a sad disgrace to any municipal body in Christendom. They call loudly for inquiry and redress; and we hope the light in which they have been placed by this report will be the means of stimulating all concerned to an effort to cure and remove the evils of which we have had so long and so much reason to complain.

In this great warfare between filth, immorality, and crime on the one hand, the Legislature, religion, and humanity on the other, the Society of Arts enters cheerfully the lists, and is resolved to form a part of that holy alliance which will shrink from no responsibility against every thing opposed to the introduction and operation of good sanitary and moral provisions for this city. Instead of claiming exemption on the score of neutrality, or on the ground that science and industry, not sanitary and moral measures, are their more immediate province, they hail at once the present movement as one without which neither science nor industry will ever effect permanent good results in this community. It would be more in accordance with their taste and love of knowledge to devote their attention exclusively to the selection and safe-keeping of the specimens and illustrations of the natural and geological, mechanical and artificial procuctions of our Island, and to encourage the progress of industrial science in the Colony; but they would sacrifice their position as a society of arts, and render themselves unworthy the high patronage they now enjoy, did they not in the first place seek by all the legitimate means within their power the sanitary and the moral welfare of the city in which they dwell. To promote the bodily and mental health of the citizens is surely an object of the very highest importance, and to cast the whole weight of their influence into that scale, and endeavour by every means within their reach to obtain these high objects, is to place themselves in a position to deserve the gratitude and co-operation of every enlightened and good citizen. Here are no personal ends to be served, no mere experiment of mock philanthropy, no party purposes for political influence, but on the broad ground of necessity and humanity they have begun, and will persevere, in bringing the matter to a successful issue. Should they unfortunately fail to realize their wishes in securing for the inhabitants of Kingston the blessing of good sanitary laws and good social and moral institutions, they shall retire from this particular branch of their duties with the consciousness that their objects, their motives, and their exertions were all on the side of a great public good, embracing the very lowest as well as the very highest in the community.

Report on Reformatory Institutions for Neglected and Vagrant Boys.

The opportunity which my official position gives me of becoming acquainted with the vicious habits of the more ignorant of our juvenile population, and the conviction I have received that the crime of the man is generally to be traced to the moral neglect of the boy, must plead my introduction of a topic which may not at first view appear strictly relevant to a prison report.

It is admitted, I believe, that in all large towns the younger part of the less favoured portion of society are exposed to a demoralizing influence which ordinary parental care often fails to counteract. What then may be apprehended with regard to those children who are growing up into life utterly destitute of such care!

In the large population of Kingston, at this moment, there is too much reason to fear that several hundred boys, between the ages of eight and sixteen, are subject to this deplorable neglect. In one of the long lanes, on a Sunday morning, just as the congregations were dispersing, there were counted not fewer than 60, of an age to be at school or at church, playing and lounging about in the dirt and rags of the week. Need we wonder if such children grow up in ignorance of God, their duty, and themselves? Are not the eyes and ears of persons who move much about the lanes and outskirts of the city constantly offended and disgusted by the profanity, indecency, and vice exhibited by mere children?

How is it possible that ignorant, idle, intemperate, and, perhaps, dishonest parents, can bring up their children to be useful members of society? If such parents do not inculcate bad principles, they at least show an example perfectly the reverse of all that is virtuous, and thus leave their unhappy offspring a prey to their own evil propensities.

It may well become a question whether those who utterly neglect their children do not forfeit their natural right to the charge of them; whether the state should not assume the duty, and become their parent. The interests of society forbid that children should be so brought up as to become a curse to it. To the children themselves, some benevolent interposition may be the highest act of mercy.

As one means of checking this tendency to a life of idleness and crime, where it is the fruit either of misfortune or gross parental neglect, I venture to suggest the following experimental measure:—

That a philanthropic board be constituted in Kingston by legislative authority, consisting of magistrates, and the minister of each of the principal congregations in the city:

That it should be competent to this board to have any apparently neglected, vagrant, or vicious boys, between the ages of and , brought before them:

That it is being found, on due inquiry and examination, that such boys are without parents, were separated from them, or discarded by them—that the parents were themselves addicted to habitual vagrancy or intemperance, or were under conviction as felons,—and that from some or other of these causes such boys were growing up under total moral neglect, in idleness and vice, an authority should be given to the board to indent them for a term of years to persons of good moral character, in a rural district, to be employed in the cultivation of the soil, or in some trade connected therewith; thus giving them an occupation which may make them useful through life:

That as well to induce parties to undertake the charge of such boys, as a measure friendly to their proper care and oversight, it be recommended that no more than nor fewer than should be placed under one master:

That as conditions for the indenture the party should contract to afford to the boys suitable food, lodging, and clothing, to have them taught to read the Scriptures, to see that they are conducted to a place of worship on Sunday, under proper supervision, and to furnish the board with such periodical returns respecting them as they may think it right to call for.

The reflex influence of such a proceeding could not fail to be beneficial. Many an indifferent parent, conscious of his neglect, but unwilling to suffer exposure, would be aroused by it to greater efforts for the welfare of his offspring.

A board constituted upon the plan proposed could be safely intrusted with all the discretion required for such a duty.

A measure of this kind would be no interference with civil liberty, properly understood. Other countries, quite as free as this, have acted upon the same principle, though in perhaps a somewhat different form. The vagrancy laws seem to recognize the principle, though with more limited restraints. Neglected children are generally young vagrants, and young vagrants are almost sure to become old thieves.

Those rights are justly forfeited which a man refuses to exercise, or is morally incompetent to discharge, and the omission or neglect of which is not a mere deprivation to himself, but inflicts injury upon his offspring and upon posterity.

In several of the principal towns of the United States there are institutions called "houses of reformation" for this class of children, combining some of the restraints of a prison with the advantages of a manual labour school.

The municipal and police courts of these towns are legally authorized, not only to commit to the house of reformation children and youths convicted of offences, but also "any child or children that "live an idle dissolute life, their parents being dead, or, if living, from vice or any other cause, neglect "to provide suitable employment for, or exercise salutary control over such child or children."

Near New York there is a farm-school for a nearly similar class of boys. The boards of both institutions are empowered to apprentice the inmates, and the boys from the latter are generally indented to farmers.

The Honourable Mr. VICKERS, Custos of Westmoreland, to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Belleisle, Grange Hill, March 20, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter covering a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, transmitting a copy of a letter from Dr. Underhill, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population.

2. As far as I can judge, Dr. Underhill appears to have assumed as general a condition of distress among the agricultural labourers which may exist in certain districts where drought has caused a considerable failure of crops, and a consequent inability to provide employment, but I am glad to say that many so thrown out of labour have found employment in other and more fortunate parts of the Island.

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3. A large stream of labour from the adjacent parishes of Hanover, St. James', and St. Elizabeth's has for many years found a channel of employment in Westmoreland. The number of strangers so engaged has been greater during the present than in any previous year, yet notwithstanding—

1st. The increased supply of labour:

2d. The want of the usual rainfall for the past two years:

3d. The consequent shortness of the crops of the more extensively and carefully cultivated products, and a scarcity of ground provisions:

4th. The serious depreciation of the exports in the European markets, in some instances their present value being but one half of that existing three or four years ago:

5th. The dearness of cotton and other articles of clothing, and the increased value of American provisions—

I have never heard of agricultural labourers, willing and able to work, failing to procure employment in this parish, for, although it may occasionally happen that a favourite estate refuses many applicants for work, those so refused immediately obtain employment on neighbouring properties.

The effective agricultural labourers, together with all other classes of the community, are not so well off as they were some few years back, but no actual distress exists amongst the first-named class.

I have no hesitation in stating, from my own personal observation, that in Westmoreland every person able and willing to work as an agricultural labourer can readily obtain employment at rates of wages as good as, if not, as I am led to believe, better than, any existing in the British West Indies.

4. The rates of wages have been reduced considerably within the last two years, as a natural consequence of the reasons before given (Nos. 1 to 4 inclusive, paragraph 3), the reduction varying from 10 to 25 per cent. Very little work is performed by day labour, task-work being generally preferred by employer and employed; but where daily wages are paid the reduced and existing rates are, for artizans 2*s.* to 8*s.* per diem, for labourers (men) 1*s.* to 2*s.*, for women 9*d.* to 1*s.*, for children 4½*d.* to 9*d.*; the day's work so paid for is nominally nine hours, but as the labourers do not commence work till about 8 o'clock a.m., and draw off at 4 p.m., taking an hour for breakfast, &c., the actual day's work is only seven hours.

Task work is the rule; day work the exception.

It is difficult to give a correct idea of the rates paid for task work, but a few examples may convey some impression on the subject.

The work on the sugar estates, the principal absorbents of labour, may be divided into cultivation and manufacture. The following are the average rates:—

Cultivation.—Ploughing land, 8*s.* to 16*s.* per acre; digging cane holes (four feet), 1*s.* 9*d.* per 100 holes, or 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per acre; planting canes, 8*s.* to 10*s.* per acre; cleaning canes, 7*s.* to 14*s.* per acre.

Draining.—The rate paid varies much, but it is preferred to other work, and is sought after by the ablest, steadiest, and most industrious labourers.

Manufacture.—Cutting canes, 15*s.* to 20*s.* per hogshead (about one ton gross of raw sugar); carting canes, 6*s.* to 10*s.* per hogshead. Grinding canes and boiling sugar are paid for at the rate of 3*d.* per pan of about 600 gallons raw cane juice to each person so employed.

The most respectable labourers also seek employment in the mill, boiling and still houses, where at the rates named they earn from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day.

The majority of the agricultural labourers aim at making but 1*s.* per day. They come late to work, and draw off as soon as they have earned that sum, which can easily be done in five hours, whilst the industrious by earlier and later hours earn 50 to 100 per cent. higher daily wages.

Beyond the work on the sugar estates and breeding pens or cattle farms, there are few other sources of employment.

5. I see no difference in the clothing of the regular labourer, and it is only the idle and dissolute, capable of labour, who are seen in the ragged state described by Dr. Underhill.

6. Considerable distress exists amongst the aged, sick, and disabled, and scarcely an effort is made by the peasantry themselves to provide for their individual sickness or age. The claims of the aged or sick upon their kindred are, with a few worthy exceptions, disowned; even the child deserting the parent. This unnatural conduct may be traced to the want of control of parents over their children at a very early age. As a general rule, the child throws off the parental restraint, refusing even a show of obedience. With such a lamentable want of training it cannot be wondered at that habits of idleness and the consequent vices are prevalent.

The most respectable, steady, and industrious labourers are those who were men or youths at the time of emancipation. The younger people are, I grieve to say, anything but industrious. It is painful to see crowds of idle and dissolute and too often diseased youth of both sexes thronging the towns, blasphemous and ribald in their language, ragged and filthy in their persons, and sad to think of the probable future of these unfortunate people, and of the community in which they are.

7. Since the so-called religious revival in 1860–61, when many of the people forsook labour, deserted their homes, wandered in a state of great physical and mental excitement over the country for weeks, leaving their gardens and provision grounds to be pilfered and even entirely sacked by the idle and dissolute many then lost the fruits of a year's industry, and were so disheartened that they have ceased to cultivate. Thus the reduction of the quantity of provisions planted will assist to account for their scarcity.

8. An unfortunate class of persons exist in the towns, many the remains of decayed families, delicate women, physically incapable of field labour, and barely able to sustain themselves by needlework, of which they obtain but little. The young are too often driven to choose between vice and starvation. The lot of the aged and sick of this class is indeed pitiable; too proud to seek relief, and even in some few cases to receive it, they linger for years, struggling for existence in a state of abject poverty. The destitution amongst this class is by no means recent; it has, unhappily, existed for years.

I am unable to suggest any feasible public means of alleviating their distress.

9. I would call his Excellency's attention to a return presented to the Legislative Council during the last session of the number of paupers receiving parochial aid, &c. for three years ending 30th September 1864, from which it would appear that in 1864, 5,465 persons received such aid, amounting to 16,017*l.* In Westmoreland the number of paupers during the same year was 270, or a little less than 5 per cent. of the entire number, whilst the amount expended was 7,393*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, or a little over $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total outlay under that head in the Colony, as will more fully appear by the return of the clerk of the vestry hereunto appended. The ratio of paupers to the number of the population in this Island would be about 2 per cent., whilst it would appear that in England and Wales the rate is about 5·21 per cent. I annex a summary of the return on which the latter statement is based. Appendix B. Appendix A.

10. There are in the parish of Westmoreland two savings banks, one at Grange Hill (the last annual statement of which I append, showing that although the amount of deposits had decreased during the year the number of depositors had increased), and one at Savanna la Mar, recently established; there is also a benefit society, termed "The Trinity Mutual Aid Society," the benefits of which, as its name implies, are confined to the Trinity district. The subscription to this society, 1*s.* per month for each adult member, cannot be deemed excessive; yet the society is in a flourishing state, and possesses a considerable surplus fund, as will more fully appear by the statement also hereunto annexed. Appendix C. Appendix D.

11. There can be little doubt that there is generally an insufficiency of capital employed in the Island for the full and thorough cultivation of even the limited quantity of land now under tillage; but as far as the parish of Westmoreland is concerned, the owners of sugar estates, both residents and absentees, have endeavoured, with very questionable success, to extend the production of their estates by increased and improved cultivation. The present value of sugar will not cover the cost of production, and unless it early and considerably increases in its price I am of opinion that even the most favourably situated and most valuable sugar estates, with all the appliances of both capital and machinery, cannot long be retained in cultivation. I believe it impossible for the small settler (taking the value of his own labour into consideration) to cultivate sugar profitably.

11. With regard to the taxation and government of the Island, I do not consider myself called upon to offer an opinion here, as I have on the former subject more practically expressed myself in the Legislative Council, and any suggestion I felt it necessary to make on the latter would be more regular in my place at that board; but I may remark that the needlesly obstructive policy pursued by the Assembly for the last two sessions has tended to deprive that body of the public confidence, and retarded many measures which were likely to have been beneficial to the Colony.

12. The number of petty debt summonses discloses, I fear, not so much an amount of unusual pecuniary difficulty, as an unfortunate spirit of litigation which has recently shown itself amongst the peasantry, and which I regret to say there is too much reason to suppose has been fostered by men capable of better advising the people. The majority of the cases brought before the petty courts in this parish are those amongst the peasantry themselves, and are mostly frivolous and specious in their character, demanding the most searching and thorough investigation at the hands of the magistrates, and these summonses are consequently repeatedly found to be even groundless.

13. The increase of crime is truly great. Very recently two barbarous murders of almost unparalleled atrocity were committed in the parish; a crime hitherto unheard of in the district. The principal increase is correctly stated by Dr. Underhill to be in the one crime of larceny. To such an extent has this offence increased that it amounts almost to a prohibition of industrial cultivation. The petty pilferer plunders the fields and produce of the plantations to a considerable extent, but is in some measure restrained by the regular and numerous staff employed on the estates to protect them. The havoc committed on the canes and provisions of the labourers and small settlers (which are generally grown in the mountains some distance from their houses) is almost incredible. Many people, seeing no hope of reaping, have abandoned the cultivation of their grounds and gardens. In the Burnt Savannah districts so general is the theft that scarcely a person can be found who is cultivating.

The increased number of convictions for this offence may be attributed, as publicly stated, to the activity of the rural constabulary, a force which is likely to become, when more settled and regular, a valuable auxiliary to the Government; but the convictions represent but a small number of the offences actually committed. The parties convicted of larceny, who may be taken also to represent the undetected offenders, are principally young, strong, able-bodied people, capable of obtaining employment, if they were willing to do so. The same parties are frequently convicted of almost identical cases of larceny, and appear to regard with indifference the punishments inflicted on them by the law.

14. Within the last few years a new and numerous class, previously unknown, and which may be styled the professional vagabond, has arisen. Its origin may, I think, be traced as far back as the visitation of small pox and cholera in the year 1851, when numbers of orphans were left destitute without friends or advisers. Left entirely to their own resources, they drifted, little by little, into crime, until they became habitual thieves. This class has been augmented by the idle and dissolute, who, encouraged by the impunity attending their robberies during the time of the revivals, persist in a course of crime difficult of detection, the proceeds of which absolve them from the necessity of labour. The increase of the crime of larceny, and the adoption of more effectual means for restraining and punishing this offence, having very recently occupied the attention of the Legislature, I do not consider it necessary for me to dwell further on the subject.

15. In conclusion I would add, that the road contractors in the mountain districts have applied for an extension of time for the completion of their contracts, on the ground that it is impossible at present to procure any labourers, as all the people are engaged in reaping their own crops of ginger and sugar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BENJ. VICKERS,
Custos of Westmoreland.

APPENDIX A.

In ENGLAND and WALES, by a recent Return on the 1st of January 1864, the following were the ratio of the number of Paupers to the number of the Population, as enumerated at the Census of 1861.

District.	Ratio per cent. of Paupers to Population.
Metropolitan	3·69
South-eastern Counties	5·53
South Midland	6·35
Eastern Counties	7·07
South-western Counties	5·93
West Midland	4·31
North Midland	4·71
North-western	6·06
Yorkshire	3·59
Northern Counties	4·04
Wales	6·09
Total ratio of paupers to population	57·37

which divided by 11, the number of districts, gives a rough general average of 5·21 per cent.

APPENDIX B.

PARISH OF WESTMORELAND.

RETURN of PAUPERS to the Honorable Legislative Council under Resolution of 1st December 1864.

	1 year to 30 Sept. 1862.	To 30 Sept. 1863.	To 30 Sept. 1864.
Number of Paupers, Out-door	184	201	213
„ „ in poor house	45 } Total 229.	52 } Total 253.	57 } Total 270.

Paid for support of Paupers, viz.:—	1 year to 30 Sept. 1862.		To 30 Sept. 1863.		To 30 Sept. 1864.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To the out-door poor in weekly sums of 1s. and 2s. each	—	535 2 0	—	560 0 0	—	574 0 0
To the transient poor by the church-wardens, weekly amounts until placed on the permanent list, and for clothing	—	48 0 0	—	50 0 0	—	66 10 8
Almoner	—	25 0 0	—	25 0 0	—	25 0 0
Medical attendance and medicines	—	150 0 0	—	150 0 0	—	150 0 0
Interments	—	49 18 5	—	66 9 9	—	90 1 3
Poorhouse supplies	371 11 6	—	455 8 0	—	407 18 0	—
„ management	55 0 0	—	55 0 0	—	60 0 0	—
„ repairs and whitewashing	14 17 6	441 9 0	24 19 5	540 7 5	20 1 6	487 19 6
Paid for one year ending 30th Sept.	1862	£1,249 9 5	1863	£1,391 17 2	1864	£1,393 11 5

(Signed) WILLIAM EWEN,
Clerk of the Vestry, Westmoreland.

APPENDIX C.

GRANGE HILL SAVINGS BANK, WESTMORELAND, established 1st January 1856.

STATEMENT of Affairs for the Year ending 1st May 1864.

1863. DR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
May 1st.—To amount in Island Treasury	3,216 4 3	—
To amount in Bank Treasurer's hands	51 8 3	—
1864.		
May 1st.—To one year's interest	175 17 1	—
To amount deposited during the year	382 4 0	—
CR.		
May 1st.—By amount of withdrawals	—	803 13 2
By salaries, printing and postage	—	34 14 2
By amount in Island Treasury	—	2,903 12 3
By amount in Treasurer's hands	—	83 14 0
	£3,825 13 7	3,825 13 7

Assets and Liabilities.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In the Island Treasury - - -	2,903	12	3	—		
In Treasurer's hands - - -	83	14	0	—		
Due to 129 depositors - - -	—			2,937	15	0
Amount of surplus fund - - -	—			49	11	3
	£2,987	6	3	2,987	6	3

Abstract.

		£	s.	d.
Accounts opened - - -	25			
Accounts closed - - -	13			
Increase of depositors -	12			
Amount withdrawn -		803	13	2
Amount deposited - -		382	4	0
Decrease of deposits -		£421	9	2

List of Deposit Accounts on the 1st May 1864.

No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.			No.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
2	215	10	6	71	10	2	0	138	2	3	4
3	11	2	4	72	6	5	8	139	27	12	7
4	4	13	11	74	11	5	4	140	13	0	6
5	28	17	5	76	172	12	2	141	1	1	9
7	3	12	5	78	60	14	0	142	4	7	7
8	84	5	7	80	23	12	3	143	2	3	7
9	90	0	3	81	1	19	7	144	4	7	3
10	70	19	1	82	1	5	9	145	21	9	1
11	2	0	11	85	0	12	1	147	1	7	10
12	8	11	4	86	2	15	9	148	3	14	10
13	35	10	3	90	1	9	3	149	8	0	9
14	266	18	3	91	0	4	8	150	8	0	9
15	0	6	7	92	8	16	9	151	2	2	9
16	1	7	8	93	14	8	7	152	31	15	9
17	1	7	8	94	2	7	9	153	1	11	3
18	0	1	11	95	2	7	9	154	184	0	6
20	333	6	0	96	0	4	8	155	20	17	6
24	41	4	2	97	6	2	8	156	18	14	10
25	7	0	1	98	1	5	11	157	10	9	1
26	2	18	7	99	0	11	6	158	21	16	4
28	0	8	0	102	209	2	0	159	10	6	2
29	11	5	11	105	45	3	4	160	10	8	4
31	3	13	11	107	7	0	8	161	2	4	1
32	8	3	0	108	0	4	0	162	8	6	2
35	2	6	4	109	5	17	5	164	5	3	8
36	1	19	1	110	22	9	7	165	10	7	6
39	14	9	0	111	1	0	10	166	10	9	7
42	15	11	7	112	1	2	9	167	8	5	4
44	3	3	7	115	4	1	5	168	20	12	0
45	5	15	9	116	2	15	7	169	14	5	3
48	11	19	4	121	4	15	4	170	1	0	5
50	13	1	5	122	3	7	0	171	20	7	6
52	0	4	8	123	5	8	11	172	22	16	7
55	7	0	1	124	9	2	5	173	4	1	2
59	83	17	7	125	102	5	0	174	3	4	11
60	25	0	4	126	0	2	4	175	30	6	9
61	7	9	8	127	5	6	1	176	9	14	1
62	2	5	0	128	8	5	5	177	1	0	1
63	6	4	7	129	3	5	11	178	10	0	9
66	0	12	8	133	4	4	9	179	6	0	0
67	6	9	9	134	11	18	3	180	2	0	0
68	5	13	6	135	73	16	8				
69	1	4	8	136	9	9	8				
70	15	10	5	137	4	12	8	—	£2,937	15	0

Audited this 20th May 1864.

(Signed) Benjamin Vickers, Chairman.

(Countersigned) Richard Burgess, Treasurer.
Henry Clarke, Secretary.

APPENDIX D.

TRINITY MUTUAL AID SOCIETY, WESTMORELAND.

Tabular Statement for ten years.

YEAR.	Adult Members.	Children.	Total Members.	Receipts.	Expenditure.	Surplus.	Burial Fee.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1855 - -	87	28	115	77 11 3	30 14 3	46 17 0	0 12 2
1856 - -	109	32	141	75 17 6	45 3 6	30 14 0	0 6 6
1857 - -	151	47	198	117 13 5	86 4 3	31 9 2	0 4 10
1858 - -	148	56	204	105 11 11	89 13 11	15 18 0	0 2 3
1859 - -	159	68	227	122 9 7	93 1 3	29 8 4	0 4 2
1860 - -	156	69	225	115 3 8	93 9 11	21 13 9	0 3 0
1861 - -	170	66	236	122 8 8	105 7 10	17 0 10	0 2 4
1862 - -	152	68	220	106 12 8	80 7 0	26 5 8	0 4 3
1863 - -	128	52	180	92 0 11	69 9 0	22 11 11	0 4 0
1864 - -	122	61	183	92 6 0	69 15 10	22 10 2	0 4 0
	1,382	547	1,929	1,027 15 7	763 6 9	264 8 10	2 7 6

	Adults.	Children.	Average total number of Members.
Average number of Members during the ten years -	138·2	54·7	192·9

The deaths among the adult members during the ten years have been 15, giving a rate of mortality of about one per cent. per annum.

The amounts under the head of burial fee are found by dividing the surplus of each year by the number of adult members who have paid in full for that year.

On the death of a member, these amounts for each year of his membership are added together, and the total paid to his relatives.

At present the burial fee of a ten years' member is 2*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, his contributions during that period have been 6*l.* 4*s.*, so that he has had the advantage of medical attendance, medicines, and money allowance in sickness during the ten years for the sum of 3*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

(Signed) HENRY CLARKE, Secretary.

Mr. ROYES to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Windsor, St. Ann, March 31, 1865.

I have the honour to forward my reply to his Excellency's circular of the 13th instant, and beg to apologize for the delay, which has been owing to some difficulty in getting accurately the Appendices.

Mr. Carter, a magistrate of the parish, observing his Excellency's circular in the newspapers, sent me the accompanying report, which I enclose, believing that the opinions of an intelligent gentleman like Mr. Carter to be of value.

I have, &c.

The Hon Hugh W. Austin, Gov. Sec. (Signed) CHARLES ROYES, Custos of St. Ann.

The Honourable Custos ROYES to Governor EYRE.

Sir, Windsor, St. Ann, March 31, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's circular of 13th instant, enclosing copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population, requesting my opinion as to how far the remarks of Dr. Underhill are applicable to the labouring classes of the parish of St. Ann, of which I am custos, with some information as to the rates of wages, prices of provisions, &c., &c., now compared with the rates and prices, &c. during the last few years.

Your Excellency further desires to learn my views as to the causes of any distress which may exist, of the great increase in the crime of larceny, with any other observations on the subjects touched upon in Dr. Underhill's letter which may suggest themselves, or my local experience be able to supply.

I have given Dr. Underhill's letter the consideration it deserves, and believe the chief points on which it touches may be thus summed up:

1. That great distress exists amongst the coloured population.
2. That this distress previously existed, and has only been intensified, not caused, by the drought of the last two years.
3. That the true cause of this distress is to be found in the simple fact "that there is not sufficient "employment for the people; there is neither work for them nor capital to employ them."
4. That the alarming increase of crime, chiefly of larceny and petty theft, arises from the extreme poverty of the people.

That the labouring classes are much poorer than they were is undeniable. This poverty is in part owing to the drought of the last two years, but more to the fact that clothing and many of the necessaries of life are dearer, muc dearer, than formerly, in consequence of their increased cost in the

mother country and America, as well as to the enhanced price of ground provisions, partly due to the trying droughts of '63 and '4, and partly, I think, to a disinclination on the part of the more industrious to extend their cultivation, in consequence of the depredations committed on them. Other causes have also their share in inducing this general poverty, increasing numbers, decreasing employment on estates, pens, and pimento walks; and due weight must be given to habits of improvidence and idleness, more especially among the young people. I cannot say that I see evidences of great distress amongst the labouring agricultural class in this district, either in their personal appearance or their clothing; they do not dress so smartly, nor need they, but they are sufficiently clad.

That they are poorer none can doubt. The rate of wages and amount of employment has not varied nor diminished much during the last few years, except in the instance of pimento; its unremunerative price has pressed heavily on the labourer, both in his wages and the price he obtained for the staple when his own. On the other hand, there has been some little increase of employment on the main roads and public works; and my belief is, that although poverty undoubtedly exists amongst the labouring agricultural class in this district, it does not amount to actual distress; and that with more genial seasons, more self-reliance, and more persistent industry, the labouring classes may yet win their way, under direction, to comfort, if not to affluence.

There are, however, two classes who suffer great distress, whose sufferings will increase, and for whom, unhappily, I see no immediate prospect of permanent relief.

1. The aged and infirm, not so infirm as to entitle them to parochial relief, but yet not able to earn a sufficient living, and whose claims on the ties of kindred are disowned by their relatives.
2. An increasing class, who have no occupation whatever fitted for their physical capacity, whose social training, pride, and prejudices render any attempts to relieve them most difficult. This class I know is suffering great distress, intensified, of course, by the dearness of clothing and provisions, and their diminishing ability to help themselves, in consequence of the abandonment of property, and the decay of families once in affluence, now in poverty, who can no longer extend the employment and aid they once afforded to them.

I do not agree in toto with Dr. Underhill that any distress which may exist amongst our labouring population is mainly attributable to the "want of employment, and the consequent absence of wages;" it has its share, and no more. Year by year, since freedom, have estates, owing to their unremunerativeness, and, let it be remembered, not unfrequently in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining a continuous supply of labour, been abandoned, without any apparent injury to the prosperity of the people. When Dr. Underhill in 1859–60 visited the Island he described them as in a state of comparative comfort; and if I read his interesting work aright, there are many passages which seem to prove that estates' labour was not a necessity to the labourer's material prosperity. He then estimated the annual value of their labour at no less than 2,162,773*l.* Tested by the same data and figures, the average for the past years has been higher, 2,190,236*l.*; and it therefore cannot be solely to either lower wages or diminished employment, supposing both to exist, that the distress or poverty is mainly due.

No doubt increasing numbers press on the means of employment. If employed, the labourers, who heretofore were constantly so, suffer in diminished earnings; if rejected, they must seek other modes of earning a living, or starve, or steal, perhaps both. No doubt some are willing to work who can find no employment. No doubt some would grow on their own account many of our minor but most remunerative exports, but who are unable to purchase the land necessary for their cultivation; but there can be no doubt that there are many, very many, who will not work at all. As yet, I do not believe increasing numbers have tended in this district to materially affect those who found in estates' labour the means of sufficient subsistence. What the future may be demands the most serious consideration. It is no doubt true that the cultivation of our staples in large quantities only absorbs a portion of the labouring classes; but whilst our importations of flour, corn-meal, and rice are so excessive, there is ample room for the employment of a large number of the people in the cultivation of provisions, than which no product is more remunerative, and land for this purpose is readily obtainable at rents varying, according to fertility and contiguity to a market, from 12*s.* to 24*s.* per acre. In the growth of coffee, ginger, arrowroot, starch, &c., &c. there is a field open for many more; in the manufacture of ropes, mats, baskets, common hats, and other every-day domestic requirements, scope for the industry of hundreds. To this list many more sources of material prosperity might be added which I will not enumerate, my object being only to show that even in districts where labour is becoming redundant there is ample room for the remunerative exercise of honest industry.

That the great increase of crime, more especially larcenies of provisions and petty thefts, is due to the poverty and distress which is said to exist, I do not believe. No doubt some steal from want, real absolute want, but these cases are few and exceptional, nor will I inquire how far even in these the cause may be traced to improvidence and idleness. The majority of the cases which have come under my cognizance can only be laid to the door of inveterate habits of idleness, and a general low state of moral culture. Who are the offenders? I refer your Excellency to the able report on this score of the Inspector of Prisons. They are the able and the young, who never seek employment anywhere or of any kind, who scorn the idea of honest work, and live entirely by the plunder of all classes, watching their industrious neighbours to their work, and robbing them during their absence.

Only last week I tried and convicted, on indisputable evidence and their own confession, three young, healthy, and able people for robbing provision fields on the previous Sunday; not one of whom had a word to offer in excuse or extenuation, and two of whom had been previously convicted of the same offence, and who will, as soon as their sentence has expired, steal again. It is not want, it is not inability to work, or to find work to do, for they never seek it; it is sheer inveterate idleness, nothing else. As a rule (of course there are praiseworthy exceptions), but as a rule, the old and middle aged are more orderly and respectful, more honest and industrious, than the rising generation. And when these in the course of nature pass away, unless some strenuous efforts are made to avert the evils accumulating and threatening the peace and property of the land, it may and will be said of Jamaica that "her last state was even worse than her first."

I leave untouched Dr. Underhill's remarks upon Jamaica legislation,—its wisdom or unwisdom,—"the unjust taxation of the coloured population,—the refusal of just tribunals,—the denial of political "rights," as your Excellency will in all probability deal with them, and relieve the Government from

JAMAICA.

the implied opprobrium of imposing or assenting to or continuing without an effort to repeal (if they previously existed) unjust and unequal laws; nor need I enter into an inquiry as to the practical utility of the suggestions offered by Dr. Underhill for averting the evil results he foresees, fears and deplores, further than to doubt the correctness of the premises on which they are based, and to remark that no people have ever suffered more than the people of Jamaica from Imperial Legislation, from the injurious Sugar Duty Bill of 1846,—to the measure of last session. It has only brought to me, and other West Indian proprietors, years of toil, painful anxiety, and ruin; and to the emancipated population (if Dr. Underhill be correct) starvation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ROYES,
Custos, St. Ann.

APPENDIX A.

Comparative Price of Clothing and Salt Provisions chiefly used by the coloured population for years 1860 to 1864.

	1860.		1861.		1862.		1863.		1864.	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Calicoes, brown and white	0	3	0	3	0	4½	0	6	0	6
" " "	0	4½	0	4½	0	7½	0	9	0	9
" " "	0	6	0	6	0	9	0	10½	1	0
Striped hollands	0	3	0	3	0	4½	0	6	0	7½
"	0	4½	0	4½	0	6	0	7½	0	9
"	0	6	0	6	0	7½	0	9	0	10½
7-8 Mottles	0	4½	0	4½	0	6	0	7½	0	7½
Osnaburghs	0	4½	0	4½	0	6	0	7½	0	7½
"	0	6	0	6	0	7½	0	9	0	10½
Cotton drills	1	0	1	0	1	3	1	3	1	3
Stripes	0	3	0	3	0	4½	0	6	0	7½
7-8 ginghams	0	3	0	3	0	4½	0	6	0	6
Printed 7-8 cottons	0	4½	0	4½	0	6	0	7½	0	7½
" "	0	6	0	6	0	7½	0	9	0	9
Salt pork	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	9
Salt beef	Same.									

Salt fish, 3*d.* per lb., when scarce 4½*d.*
Pickled fish. No variation, save when scarce.
Flour, per barrel } No variation beyond occasional abundance and otherwise.
Corn meal, per barrel }

Ground provisions depend on their abundance. During last year in the drought they were very dear. Now and for some time past they have been more plentiful, and of course cheaper.

APPENDIX B.

The rate of wages has not varied much for some years past, and the following rates may be taken as representing pretty accurately those in this district:—

Field hands, great gang, 1*s.* per day.
Do. second gang, 9*d.* per day.
Do. third gang, 6*d.* per day.
Wain men, 1*s.* 3*d.* per day.
Wain boys and mule carts, 1*s.* per day.
Boiling-house people, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.*, according to time.
Stillermen, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.*, according to time.
Woodcutters (by cord, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*), 1*s.* 3*d.* per day.
Mill-house hands, 2*d.* to 3*d.* per syphon of 350 to 500 gallons.
Carpenters, from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per day, according to skill, &c.
Coopers, from 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per hogshead, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* per puncheon, according to size, staves, packs, &c.
Masons, from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per day, according to skill.
Blacksmiths and plumbers are generally paid by contract, and their charges are exorbitant, whilst the work is inferior. Ironwork, which in England costs 3*d.* per lb., here is charged at 9*d.* and even 1*s.*
Pastures commons, on estates, 2*s.* to 5*s.* per acre, dependant on growth of weeds; on penns, from 1*s.* to 2*s.* per acre.
Guinea grass, on penns, from 9*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* per acre.
Stonewalls to rebuild, 7*s.* to 10*s.*, according to height, facility of getting stones, &c.
New stonewalls from 12*s.* to 36*s.* per chain, depending on the nature of contract, if to find and cart stones, facility of quarrying, carting, &c.

On five estates out of seven in this district the labour pay bills have been much the same, thus:

	£
1860	10,383
*1861	11,057
1862	9,779
†1863	10,204
1864	9,912 and 400*l.*, on public works.

* Extensive repairs to works and new machinery being erected on three of these estates, increasing their pay bills in the aggregate over 800*l.*
† Very large pimento crop in the lowlands.

APPENDIX C.

Dr. Underhill's "West Indies," Jamaica, page 422.

Dr. Underhill estimates the annual value of the labour of the people as follows, the estimate being based on the average of the four years from 1855 to 1858. I have taken the five succeeding years, viz., 1859 to 1863, and have assumed the same number of acres in provisions, as the diminished produce of 1863 from drought would be compensated for by an increased price, and although I have remarked the growing disinclination of the labourers to extend their cultivation, yet increasing numbers, and the fact that imports of breadstuffs have not increased in proportion, lead fairly to the supposition that no diminution has taken place in the number of acres cultivated.

ESTIMATE of annual Value of Labour, 1855 to 1858.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
91,408 acres provisions, at 20*l.* per acre	1,828,160	0	0			
29,544 hogsheads of sugar, at 7*l.* per hogshead	206,808	0	0			
17,075 puncheons of rum, at 1*l.* 10*s.*	25,612	0	0			
8,174,052 lbs. of pimento, at 1¼*d.* per lbs.	42,573	0	0			
5,329,640 lbs. of coffee, at 1½*d.* per lb.	33,310	0	0			
504,800 lbs. of ginger, at 3*d.* per lb.	6,310	0	0			
Minor articles, valued at	20,000	0	0			
				2,162,773	0	0

Estimate of annual Value of Labour, 1859 to 1863.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
91,408 acres of provisions, at 20*l.* per acre	1,828,160	0	0			
33,751 hogsheads of sugar, at 7*l.* per hogshead	236,257	0	0			
18,647 puncheons of rum, at 1*l.* 10*s.* per puncheon	27,970	0	0			
6,563,194 lbs. of pimento, at 1¼*d.* per lb.	34,183	0	0			
5,500,541 lbs. of coffee, at 1½*d.* per lb.	34,378	0	0			
743,117 lbs. of ginger, at 3*d.* per lb.	9,288	0	0			
Minor articles, all increased, valued at	22,500	0	0			
				2,192,736	0	0
Increase in annual value of labour, 1859 to 1863				29,963	0	0

Referring to the circular letter of his Excellency the Governor to his honour the custos, and the communication from Dr. Underhill to the Colonial Secretary, bearing upon the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst the labouring population, I would beg to offer my opinion as a magistrate of St. Ann, called upon almost daily to investigate matters of complaint amongst that class, and as a manager of several properties, having to deal with various grades of our peasantry.

I have been resident in the parish of St. Ann from my youth, and occupying for many years a position in the parish as a public man, and from my intercourse with the entire body of our labouring population—commercially, religiously, and magisterially—I have had perhaps a better opportunity than most persons of knowing their circumstances, habits of life, morals, and social intercourse; and even of their religious principles I may be a better judge than those having the charge of their spiritual oversight, seeing that it is only in the daily life and transactions with those who give employment to them, rather than the minister who meets them monthly or quarterly, can a correct opinion be formed as to any effect the long course of religious training, and the many educational advantages, have had upon the conduct and habit of our labouring population.

1*st.—As to Population.*

The last census taken in the year 1861 showed a population of 36,000 in the parish of Saint Ann, of all classes. A very small proportion of the labouring class may be said to find constant and steady employment, and that only on the sugar estates which are situated near the sea coast; and these hold their places with such jealous care as to give no chance whatever for persons coming from the country districts applying for work. Grazing penns and small properties in the interior are cleaned but once a year, and thus the great bulk of our labouring people have to fall back upon the cultivation of ground provisions, the manufacture of sugar, averaging each from 1 to 2 barrels, small lots of coffee, tobacco, corn, vegetables, ropes, baskets, mats, and the breeding of pigs and poultry, for all which they find ready sale to those of their own class on the estates and among the inhabitants of the towns. If they are thus shut out of employment in the lowlands, the inconvenience is only felt in waiting the arrival of their own harvest time; and then they have a treble advantage over the lowlanders, in the remunerating prices of their produce and small stock. They know right well how to take advantage of the market, and even when the market is glutted they are quite ready to take back home any portions unsold rather than reduce their rates. Thus the mountain peasantry have always ground provisions for use, and the lowland peasantry some little cash at command. None but the lame and sickly of the towns and immediate vicinity suffer want, and seek parochial relief, and these, compared with the the population, are few. A black man seen begging on the Queen's highway is indeed a rare spectacle.

2d.—Variation in rate of wages, and rise in price of provisions.

In the lowlands there has not been any variation in the rate of wages, except, in some few instances, persons take advantage of the superabundance of labour, and will offer for work not lasting any time 9*d.* per day. The sugar estates uniformly pay 1*s.* per day, and that weekly or fortnightly. Indeed, no able-bodied man will take less than 1*s.* per day, and for task work can make easily 2*s.* per day. Women are quite equal to the men in pasture cleaning and cane trashing, both in quantity and quality, and are paid 1*s.* per day. In the mountain districts where very little employment is offered, indifferent hands may be had at 9*d.*, and young people from 12 to 16 years of age at 6*d.* per day.

There has never been any rise in the price of provisions consequent upon the lessening of the rate of wages. The peasant who grows provisions for sale never retaliates in this way. On the contrary, if it be alleged that the times are hard, and money scarce, he will be ready to abate, or give what they term "berata." Nor do I believe that he pays dearer for the salted provisions he buys in consequence of the additional duty on imports. The storekeeper, who pays the extra duty on fish, rice, flour, &c., cannot, if even he desires to do so, "make up" for it in the 3*d.* or 1½*d.* worth which the negro buys. He knows well, and he expects, the old measure and the old weight, and if he cannot have it so he will turn away, and content himself with a small supply of fresh beef or pork. I have seen them in the field, when called to breakfast, sit over a very nice dish indeed, composed of vegetables mixed with the fat of fresh pork, and with as much ground provisions for one person as would suffice for four white people.

3d.—Are the peasantry less well off or less decently clad than heretofore.

Much may be said under these heads. I do not believe that there is in Jamaica anything that may be described as squalid misery, or, as Dr. Underhill's correspondent depicts it, "multitudes suffering from want, little removed from starvation." The parish of St. Ann suffers alike with other parishes from drought, but I have never seen our people driven to such extremities. Ground provisions suffer to some extent; but let it be remembered that the three descriptions of yams, viz., the white yam, the yellow yam, and the negro yam, which the people cultivate, don't all come in at the same season of the year, and one or other will always give a good return. Plantain trees, which give from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* the bunch, never fail to yield. All these give to the peasant of the mountains a never failing supply of bread kind; and I have it from their own lips that one acre of land for which they pay an annual rental of 12*s.* to 20*s.*, when in good cultivation is worth to them 12*l.* to 15*l.* I have inspected many grounds of the more industrious of our people, and I have found even these figures to be far below the estimate. Provision fields near to the sea coast suffer much more from drought than those of the country districts; yet the peasant of the lowlands has an advantage over the one of the country, in the cocoa-nut and bread fruit trees, neither of which trees will bear fruit in the mountains, where the temperature differs so materially. With the fruit of these trees he barters with the mountaineer for ground provisions.

I know of families who go every week to the country with mule loads of cocoa nuts, and return with yams in exchange.

The healthy and industrious mountain peasant can never want for provisions, having before him an extensive run of land which may be rented on cheap terms. And the peasant of the lowlands, with only one acre of land, growing 100 cocoa-nut trees, and retailing five cocoa nuts for 3*d.*, may reckon upon a handsome yearly income of 35*l.* to 40*l.* Clearly then the labourer of Jamaica has many advantages, and is not less well off than heretofore.

It cannot be denied that there is want and poverty in the parish of St. Ann, and in fact throughout all the parishes. I will divide those who thus suffer into two classes, and I do state that, considering the fact that we have in Jamaica a population of

Coloured people - - - - -	81,000
Blacks - - - - - -	346,300,

the number of those who may be said to suffer want and poverty are comparatively few. First, we have the aged and sickly. "Reverence to parents" is a lesson hard to be learnt by our peasantry. So long as a little property is to be acquired after death, the son will pay some attention to his parent; but if he grew old and poor, he is neglected, and left to "go upon country," as they term it. These halt, lame, and blind seek relief at our vestry boards, and they never fail to obtain it. A reference to the records of the vestry office will show the number of such cast-off parents entered up for parochial relief.

Next, we have a class who, in days that are past, had lived in comparative comfort; some are on the shady side of life; others young; without professions, and unaccustomed to labour, these feel the hardship of the times very much! The death of a parent will alter very materially the circumstances of a family, and will affect their destiny. Many families of such are relieved by our vestry boards; and if we had in Jamaica, as in England, factories where indoor employment could be obtained, a large number of healthy well-conducted young people, of coloured and black, could be called into service.

To the question, "Are they as decently clad now as heretofore?" I would reply, that I consider, on the whole, our peasantry, although not as expensively, are as decently well clad now as heretofore. The black people have an inordinate desire for dress. The female who goes barefoot all the week must have for Sunday as costly a hat as the lady who drives in a carriage. The labourer who to-day cuts bush and fells trees must on Sunday be in tweeds and patent boots. But I think this extravagance has been greatly checked by the high price of cotton goods since the American war. Very many now absent themselves from church, not through want and poverty, but because they cannot afford to dress as extravagantly as heretofore.

Pass through a negro village, and one's attention is attracted to that clean and neat cottage, with several decently clad children of healthy countenance. While on the opposite side may be seen the half-finished cottage, ragged wife and half naked children. If an explanation is sought for, take a walk to the provision field of each of the men at the head of these families, and it is found there. The one has by industry sufficient to feed his family, and even under the present high price of cloth can manage

to clothe his children decently, but not extravagantly. The other is a thief and an idler; no one will employ him, and he is doomed for the district prison. Clearly then the industrious peasant of Jamaica, with all the disadvantages he may labour under, is as well clad now as heretofore.

4th.—Their industry. Habits of life. Ambition.

As a people, I do not consider they can be called idle. They will work, and will make as much talk about it as they can; but cultivation with them is only to a certain limit, and no further. Let them realize enough provisions to feed the family and to procure clothing for the children, a pig or two in the sty, and a pony to ride to church, and they now arrive at the summit of their ambition. They have no thought of a time of sickness, and the expense necessary for medical attendance, and hence many sicken and die.

This indifference to the labouring more and to the getting more may be attributed to the smallness of their artificial wants and of home comforts. Few negroes care to use malt, or to change from a dish of salted fish to that of fresh beef. A cheap mat made of the plantain tree, spread upon the floor of the cottage, will serve as well as a bed of mahogany, on which the little family are to repose. He has no ambition beyond that of working all the week, and to attend church on the Sunday. He does not read a book beyond certain portions of the Bible. He is ignorant of passing events, and talks at home of nothing but his provision field, his chapel, and his minister.

5th.—Crime, and its causes. Missionary operations. Religion.

Crime of almost every species has risen up within the past few years, "darkening the land." Burglaries of the most daring kind have been committed. Larceny of provisions by young and able persons, and in very many instances by parents accompanied by their children, have been committed. I have laboured assiduously in endeavouring to arrive at the real cause of all these evils. I am satisfied that they do not originate through "want and starvation," but may be traced to the so-called "revival" of 1862. Our people were during that year led away with a notion, which they did not care that any one should correct, that this new religion was to be a spirit of idleness, that there was to be a cessation of all work, that there was to be equality among all men, and that they were to enjoy all things common. They were wise above their ministers and teachers. Some influential ones led the way in these "revivals," and they went in thousands from one district to the other, sleeping in chapels and houses promiscuously for many months. Any one who attempted to correct these errors stood in jeopardy of his life. At length, impelled by hunger, they daringly made attempts to satisfy their wants by plundering cane fields and provision grounds; and, but for the strong arm of the law wisely brought to the check, much more serious results might have followed. I find an opinion still prevalent among the people, that it is no crime for the poor man to help himself of the property of the rich; and up to the present day there are those to be found in the several districts who led the way in these revivals who have never since 1862 done any field work, but live by their meeting houses, where their pernicious doctrines are inculcated, and where the most blasphemous things are said and done. I recognize before me at every court day "revivalists" charged with theft, assaults, and obscene language. The people rob from the very ministers who preach every Sunday to them; and it was only last week I had to commit to penal labour a healthy man and his little daughter for larceny of provisions from the field belonging to a Baptist minister.

Our peasantry generally are grossly ignorant. They do not appreciate school advantages, although they are free to admit that education is good. Parish free schools and numerous other schools in connexion with dissenting places of worship have been opened to them at the small weekly charge of 3*d.*, and yet the greater part of these have been closed, owing to bad attendance. A question here arises, what effect have the operations and labours of the missionaries had upon the labouring population since the emancipation of 1838? I answer, comparatively little. I think their religious teachings have been very defective, and with none more so than the section of "Baptists," from whom these complaints have lately sprung up against the Government of the Island.

To ignorant "deacons" of their churches has mainly been committed the task of forming and giving tone to the piety of vast numbers of the peasantry. Few can, with correctness, tell the plan of salvation, and fewer still can be depended upon for truthfulness. Their religion I won't scruple to pronounce a perfect negation.

Let any one but read the "Remonstrance of the Presbytery of Jamaica with the Baptist Missionaries," published in pamphlet in 1843, and he will be convinced how very accurately have all the predictions therein been fulfilled.

The section of "Baptists," which for numbers is reckoned largest in the Island, has for some few years been declining most, and as their European ministers remove from the Island large numbers of our population, professedly belonging to their communion, are left behind in all their ignorance, and, forsooth, the Government of the Colony must now be blamed by Dr. Underhill for all the sad fruits that follow.

Our police courts record as many convictions for ill-treatment to wives, assaults, and obscene language, as larcenies of provisions.

(Signed) RICHARD CARTER,
Justice of the Peace, St. Ann.

March 1865.

The Hon. CUSTOS RENNALLS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Glen Goffe, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale,
March 23, 1865.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular Despatch of the 13th instant, requiring information, for Her Majesty's Government, whether the remarks contained in the letter from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society to the Secretary of State for the Colonies are applicable to the labouring classes of the parish of which I am custos.

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The ordinary rate of pay for a day's work has not varied, so far as I can ascertain, for many years; in my own district it has not altered for the last 10 or 12 years. For day labour it is 1*s.* for an adult; but the main portion of estates' field work is done by job, or task, at which a commonly industrious person can earn 1*s.* 6*d.* and more (2*s.*) per day, if so inclined. At the sugar works in crop-time the work is generally by task, such as grinding, and boiling a certain number of gallons of cane juice for a stated rate; at which kind of work 1*s.* 3*d.*, 1*s.* 6*d.*, and 2*s.*, even to 3*s.*, can be and is frequently earned. Tradesmen wages, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per diem.

The prices of ground provisions had not risen, so far as I am aware of, until the revival mania. In the present year they are in a slight degree enhanced in value, in consequence of the drought. The ruling price, however, may be stated as from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per 100 for plantains (scarce now, and always influenced by high winds and dry weather), and 6*s.*, at highest, per 100 lbs., for yams, at which they can now be abundantly bought, much cheaper than at any time previous to emancipation.

Work in the sugar districts can be easily, and, I believe, invariably obtained where the people are inclined to seek for it at the same remuneration as before. It is the uncertainty of getting the labour when required, and its insufficiency for the amount to be paid, with falling prices, that prevents the planter from extending his cultivation, and doing many things towards its future enlargement that he otherwise would. It should also be borne in mind that the bulk of the work is done by females, both in and out of crop-time. Out of crop the men will not hoe the weeds in the cane fields, and during crop very few of them cut the canes. Such of them as do work being employed as cartmen, sugar boilers, mill hands, wood cutters, and such like; who may earn from 2*s.* to 3*s.* per day.

In the district in which I reside for a portion of the year, and in which I possess property realizing a rent roll from land tenanted by negroes of between 200*l.* and 250*l.* a year, the population numbers from 5,000 to 6,000 souls, according to the last census of 1861. There are no sugar estates, nor are there any properties of any extent carried on by the owners in the cultivation of coffee or any other export. The lands are rented out in small lots (generally from one to five acres each) to labourers; and immediately upon emancipation they purchased freeholds, now planted with coffee, arrowroot, and the usual ground provisions, as well as corn, to a very considerable extent of acreage. In fact, they are formed into a numerous middle class, and I do not believe that they ever would be induced, under any circumatances whatever, to become, in the general acceptation of the term, a labouring class. They are absolutely free and independent in their ideas and habits, and would resist the attachment of themselves to continuous employment of any sort. The statement taken from the report of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society for the year ending April 1864 conveys a sufficiently accurate description of the population, not only of this district but of the rest of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

I do not think it will be out of place here to state that a system prevails, especially at the season of planting ground provisions, &c., of families and neighbours joining together in large numbers for digging the yam hills, so that considerable patches of land become prepared and planted. There is a reciprocity of labour among them, no money passes, and thus the great extent of provision cultivation in this parish is readily to be accounted for.

The long continued drought has no doubt injured the crops of small settlers, particularly that of corn; but the coffee crop, picked at the end of last year (1864), was a good one, and has not yet entirely been sent to market.

I have not seen myself any occasion to dread nor heard of any apprehension of starvation in this parish, though there is much misery and want among a certain class of the coloured population not to be considered as the peasantry of the Island; nor has there been any such want evinced to have created a difference in their purchasing the usual articles of clothing; no doubt these commodities have increased in price, and what are bought are generally of an inferior quality to what were heretofore imported.

I cannot say the people appear to me so well off as a few years ago; so far back even as 15 or 20 years; nor so well and substantially clothed in their daily garments. In respect to the first, the soil of their freeholds, by constant planting, is becoming year by year exhausted, without any attempt on their parts to renovate it. With regard to the second, it is not my opinion the dearness of clothing that is the cause, nor that the duties upon imported articles have anything to do with the proximate state of nakedness in which they are often seen going to their grounds, or while working there, or to their labour elsewhere. Many of them, though met on a week day in such tattered garb passing along the highways, may be seen on the Sabbath with boots and spurs and frockcoat, riding their horses or mules to their places of worship. The females seem habitually to enjoy dirty and torn apparel during the week, but the Sunday beholds them dressed in gayer colours and in as good materials as any peasantry in the world.

Ever since their emancipation the ragged appearance of the younger branches of a negro family has been a subject of remark and deep regret to the philanthropic advocates for their freedom. If they are not as well off as in former years, it arises from causes over which they have the entire control in their own hands.

Institutions for their more general education, or for bettering their sanitary condition, may be devised; but will the mass of the labouring classes be induced to avail themselves of such a beneficent policy of government without the strongest possible compulsion? I fear not. The regularly educated medical practitioner they scout. The obeah man is their doctor, and in too many instances the great physician to their souls. Their habits must greatly change to create expectation in education, undertaken by the State, as a means of preventing "the destruction of the hopes that the legislature and "people of Great Britain have cherished with regard to the well-being of the emancipated population "of Jamaica."

The cause of any existing distress may be found in their not being so industrious as they might be, with an improvidence for the future peculiar to them. Those that are industrious being well off and prosperous, but these complain bitterly of being plundered without mercy by the younger people too lazy to work. The restraint that a negro parent formerly had and exercised over his children is gradually, if not rapidly, wearing out, and the rising generation soon assumes to themselves an

independence of action which leads them at a very early age into idleness and depravity of every kind.

My own conviction is that were all taxation, direct or indirect, abolished in this Island, no resuscitation of estates by means of native labour would ensue, nor a single more hogshead of sugar be made other than is now produced in good seasons. Native labour is entirely wanting in this parish for the purpose of continuous sugar or any other cultivation. I therefore do not think the question, as concerns labourers, of high or low taxation, has any bearing upon the production or increase of the staples for export from Jamaica, or that by remission of taxes the mass of the people are to be rendered prosperous, or their innate tendency of disposition to idleness converted into energy and activity of mind and body.

In all respects, perhaps, the legislation that has taken place in Jamaica since emancipation has not been of the wisest or soundest policy; but I cannot think, after my long local experience, that its character has been of so damaging a nature, as to attribute to it the probable ultimate ruin of all classes.

The quondam slave population on their part have much to answer for in the slow progress that emancipation has done for them; and very capable are they of judging themselves of that responsibility; but to suppose, amongst others, one item for rectifying past grievances, disappointments, and mistakes, that the peasantry can be discouraged from the cultivation of sugar on their own freeholds, and manufacturing the cane into sugar by means of their own mills and apparatus, is purely Utopian. They will thank no one for such a proposition, and more distrust than ever will be engendered in the negro mind towards those who would attempt to carry such a scheme into effect.

Hoping that his Excellency the Governor will pardon me if I have wandered too much from the object of his Excellency's inquiries,

I have, &c.

Hon. H. W. Austin. (Signed) SAMUEL RENNALLS,
Custos of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

The Honourable Custos GEORGES to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Fair Prospect, St. David, March 27, 1865.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter dated 13th March instant, embodying a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with a copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society addressed to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population, and requesting at the same time any information which I may be able to afford relative to the statements therein contained, which request I cheerfully comply with.

With respect to the credibility that may be attached to the statements put forth by Mr. Underhill, I would observe that that gentleman does not profess to speak from his own personal experience and information, nor as the organ of the Baptist Missionary Society as a recognized body, but simply avers that "for months past every mail has brought him letters informing him of the continually increasing "distress, &c.," and proceeds to quote a brief passage from one of them. The statements then lack primâ facie that authority which their importance demands, especially so as the Rev. Mr. Oughton, one of the most popular and talented ministers of that body in this country, has in a great measure repudiated them. I will take the statements in the order in which they appear, and accompany them with such remarks as my knowledge and experience warrant me in supplying. "Crime has fearfully "increased. The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is considerably more than double "the average, and nearly all the crime, larceny, summonses for petty debts, disclose an amount of "pecuniary distress which has never before been experienced, and applications for parochial relief "prove that multitudes are suffering from want, little removed from starvation."

In forming an estimate of the increase of crime in any country it is necessary to refer to the calendars of successive courts, for although there is always a large amount of undetected crime that cannot be taken into account, our circuit courts, up to the end of last year, were held four times in the year. Two days were the limit of each court, but the business to be adjudicated has been generally disposed of in one, nor do the cases show such a proportion of larceny as would justify Mr. Underhill's assertion in their respect; at least an equal number arise from assaults. The same may be said of our petty courts, which are principally occupied in dealing with offences under the Towns and Communities Act, for abusive language, &c. Our parochial relief is confined to decrepit and infirm persons, who are physically unable to work, and who would undoubtedly starve without the small pittance thus distributed, for it is well known that their children will not assist them when reduced to extremity, either by old age or otherwise. The pauper list requires a quarterly relief to the extent of 50*l.* Mr. Underhill concludes from all this that it arises from extreme poverty of the people; that he says is the true origin of all the larceny, and the naked condition of the people; but he will not deny, I presume, that opportunity is the fruitful mother of the crimes of theft in all their varieties, and where a man's position and circumstances have collected together the enjoyments and the things of life, and given to more men the taste than the means of them, dishonesty is whetted by all it sees, and by the ease of invading them. We need not wonder at the activity of theft when we look at the opportunities of committing it in this country, and the general impunity with which it is attended. In Newgate biography, no doubt, examples might be found of a man setting out perfectly honest at the one end of Cheapside, and becoming fit for a prison before he reached the other, simply because he meets with a convenient opportunity, and the animus furandi is strong, but he has not invaded his neighbour's property because he was starving. Just so with our native marauder; he is always irresistibly overcome by temptation, and the owner of property cannot always attend to his canes, his sugar, and hogs and sheep, and cocoa-nuts, &c., and the thief at the same time; and when these articles are appropriated it cannot be said that starvation has been the impelling motive, because he grows his own canes at home, and squeezes his own syrup. Mutton is a delicacy which few families in higher grades of society can afford to enjoy, and it is not a necessity to the negro, so that in nearly every instance of

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theft he must search for some other motive than starvation, and that is positive badness of heart and incurable laziness.

Further, the rent of an acre of land, considering the profits it yields to them, is comparatively nominal. There are a great many thrown-up properties in the Island, which rent out at from five to six dollars per acre to those who are honest enough to take advantage of it, and I should say that three fourths at least of the labouring population, so called, are never seen on a sugar estate because their position as lessees do not compel it. It is besides notorious that where one acre is paid for three or four are cultivated either by the family or by sub-tenants, which is a species of dishonesty every proprietor is obliged to submit to.

With respect to the product of an acre of leased land, I would adduce this fact: I am myself at this moment defending an action of tort, for damage said to have been done by my cattle, in which the damages are laid at nearly 100*l.*, the plaintiff himself not being a recognized tenant of the proprietor, but holding his acre as sub-tenant under another acre leaseholder.

The seasons have not been more unfavourable for the growth of corn and provisions generally than the average during the last twenty years ; but admitting the fact, the effects of a dry season are not felt by the labourers themselves to the extent Mr. Underhill unfairly argues. It must be borne in mind that as a rule the negroes themselves are the producers, and not the buyers. They have always sufficient for their own consumption, and if a dry season overtakes them, and a short crop is produced, they only suffer as far as the surplus is concerned, and even then they may be said to be gainers by the dispensation, for they obtain an increased price at the market; they perfectly understand the principles of demand and supply. I can readily perceive how in a country like Barbadoes, where the labouring population do not plant an acre, and are dependant upon money wages, the alternation of the seasons should seriously affect the pocket; but here it can never have that effect; the consumer here suffers, and not the producer; and the consumer, in the sense of my argument, is not the negro.

As regards the want of clothing, upon which so much stress is laid, to those conversant with negroes and their habits it really seems ridiculous. The man's whole suit for every day wear, all he desires, and what he prefers, may be purchased for 3*s.*, six yards of osnaburgh at 6*d.* per yard, and this makes frock and pantaloons. Shoes he could hardly wear if he had them; and as for stockings, why if one should appear in that guise in the field the ridicule of the rest would soon drive him away. Thanks to a genial climate, clothing is only required for the sake of decency. Any more than the labourer now wears would be a grievous incumbrance to him. But on Sundays, and I suppose Mr. Underhill had opportunities of witnessing them on that day, who so spruce as they? Dress coats and drill pants, cloth boots, with patent leather tops ; silk ties and vests; and kid gloves, with perfumed cambric handkerchief. All this as a matter of course. And for the females, I can only say they exhibit a vast amount of crinoline, and ribbon, and feather. They only feel the dearness of cloth in that they cannot afford quite so many superfluous dresses; their actual wants are scarcely affected by it. So much regarding the poor people's nakedness.

" The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done." " Sugar cultivation on the estates does not absorb more than 30,000 people." Here I consider Mr. Underhill greatly understates the number. My connexion with St. Thomas-in-the-East enables me to supply further information on the subject of labour and employment. The people employed on 19 estates in that parish are fully 6,000, allowing, say, 300 to each estate on an average. Thus I account for exactly one fifth of the 30,000, which, he says, are all that can get employment. If we with 19 estates employ 6,000 hands, how many will Trelawney with 50 estates, and St. James with 40 more estates, employ? And what then about the other 16 sugar-growing parishes. And we may assume that the coffee properties and breeding-pens throughout the Island employ 5,000. Jamaica has at this day in cultivation 300 sugar estates. In 1804 there were 859. In 1834 there were 646. Such is the way in which our cultivation has disappeared. But even allowing that there are now only 300 estates at work, yet on the whole they must employ an average number (including the imbecile watchmen and the little children) of 200 hands per day, and this will give us 60,000. The village called White Houses, lying between St. Thomas-in-the-East and this parish, contains 1,100 souls; Duaney Pen, close by, to the eastward, 350. Here are 1,450 people, and of these I get about 140 to work on this estate (Belvidere) ; the rest of the labourers coming from far away up the valley. The neighbouring estate, "Rozelle," perhaps gets about the same number. I know all these people personally, and have done for years ; and in seasons of great distress, when our cry has been labour, give us labour, we could not get more of these 1,450 people on any consideration. They tell us plainly they don't care to work on the sugar plantation; their own grounds pay them better.

Mr. Underhill says, "I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature; of their " abortive Immigration Bill; of their unjust taxation of the coloured population ; of their refusal of " just tribunals ; of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes." He is wise in thus abstaining from topics which he could in no way substantiate.

1st. Abortive Immigration Bills. True, immigration has been a failure, except in a few exceptional districts, which have profited greatly by the location of Africans. Immigration has been a lamentable failure; but can any one believe we were all such fools, having this vast abundance of native labour on the spot, as to go to the far east, and bring hither the serpent worshipper and the celestial from Hindostan and China, each heathen costing in hard cash some 17*l.* to land him on the shores of Jamaica; and then to feed and clothe, and find him a physician and medicine, and be for ever under the surveillance of the Immigration Agency Department, if we really did not want labour. "Drowning men catch at straws," and who will wonder if in our desperate need we committed what has since proved sad errors.

2d. Unjust taxation of coloured population. A gross mis-statement; white, black, and brown are as fairly and equitably taxed as they can possibly be, without making it a class question.

3d. Refusal of just tribunals. Go into any petty court in the Island, and you will soon be convinced of the utter absurdity of this statement.

4th. Denial of political rights, &c. Of the 47 members of Assembly, how many are Europeans?

I believe less than half. Are not all the rest coloured men and creoles? Who are our barristers, our officers in the Legislative Department, in the Customs? Who are our magistrates, inspectors of police, coroners, clerks of peace, and clerks of vestry, &c.? More than three fourths are coloured men. This cry has been so often refuted it is unnecessary to go over the ground any more.

Mr. Underhill next proceeds to point out what he considers remedial measures for this fearful state of things which he has pictured, and says, "the Governor might be instructed to encourge the growth of exportable products by the people." It has been shown to them over and over again what great advantage they would derive by the cultivation of cotton; but I will venture to say that from the thousands of small freeholds held by them, of from one to 20 acres each, not a dozen bales of cotton have been exported, notwithstanding it grows wild at their very doors. It is a well-established fact that the people generally will not cultivate anything that they cannot consume themselves. A patch of yams and cocoas, viewed from under the shade of a grove of plantain trees, is to them a perfect Elysium. We must in fairness state also that there are some discouragements to the growth of minor products, such as they could fairly be assumed to be capable of cultivating. Among these the most prominent is bad roads, their properties being generally situated in mountainous districts. It is not possible they can all find roads suitable for wheel carriages, and any other mode of transit is both laborious and unprofitable. Then the manner in which they dispose of their produce. This is of course through the agency of speculators, who take every advantage of their ignorance of the state of the markets. This, as Mr. Underhill asserts, might be obviated by associations for shipping their produce in large quantities. But will they consent to this? They are still very suspicious, and no man trusts his neighbour, hence their puny individual efforts must result in failure and mortification.

"Equalizing the duties of the produce of the people and of the planting interest." I have yet to learn where is the inequality. The planter pays 5*s.* 9*d.* per hogshead as export duty on his sugar. Does the small settler pay more? He cannot, except as in the extortion of speculators, simply because he does not himself directly export. The duty on rum paid by the planter is 2*s.* 9*d.* per gallon. The settler does not make rum. He ships, perhaps, some honey and wax, and ginger and arrowroot, but the Customs' officer takes no more from him than from the large planter.

"With just laws and light taxation capitalists would be encouraged to settle in Jamaica, employ the people, and improve the starvation wages." Such is the summary of Mr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Secretary. We have yet to find in how the laws are unjust, and where they operate prejudicially to the labourer; and as for taxation it is not near so heavy as it is in Great Britain. If these people can keep their riding horses and their brood mares and followers on the lands of the large proprietors free of charge, surely they can pay 11*s.* per annum for the one and 1*s.* 6*d.* for the other. This, with 9*s.* on wheels, and 1*d.* per acre for the freehold land, is all the direct taxes these poor starving people pay. I do not remember ever to have seen in England a field labourer riding on horseback to his work; but at this moment I have a dozen animals in my yard eating chop tops and canetops, all ridden by the labourers. I will tell Mr. Underhill the cause of capital not being more universally employed in Jamaica. The great disinclination to labour evinced by the emancipated class, and which is partly accounted for by the remembrance of the days now happily past, and partly by the bounty of nature, which provides food for her children without the necessity for that unceasing toil required from man in more northern climates, and the inherent laziness of the negro, proved beyond all cavil. The result of the very first attempt to grow cotton in this Island at Greenwell in St. David was enough to deter capitalists from embarking their means in that direction. When everything was done, and a kind Providence brought the cotton into full bloom, there was none to pick it. They found they had their fields to look after, and demanded such exorbitant wages that the manager was forced to let the blossoms be blown by the breezes from the ocean "whithersoever it listed." How many a sugar crop has there not been ruined from the same cause.

Mr. Underhill's letter suggests many more things, which, if dilated on, would make this communication too long; therefore I can say nothing now of the fruits of the so-called revivalism, the neglect of parental duties, the terror inspired by pretended obeahism, the general resort to quack doctors, to the exclusion of the medical profession, the utter disregard of the laws of "meum and tuum," the neglect of public worship, midnight revels, wakes, and other such things.

A wise legislation might have done much to obviate many of the evils under which we labour, but the transition from slavery to unlimited freedom was too sudden, and we had no experience to guide us in so momentous a matter; hence the great experiment, on which the whole world looked with expectant gaze, has proved a failure, involving alike in its ruin planter and peasant, European and creole. The people may exist; but in what sort of existence, after every estate shall have been abandoned? We hope better things, and cannot believe, in looking at the strides all nations are making in science and civilization, that this beautiful Island shall be the one dark spot of ignorance and superstition on the fair face of creation. But to accomplish our redemption a better moral tone must be created. Labour must be dignified, not debased. Religion must be more practical, and not consist in outward forms only, and a vain display of dress. Example must be shown of what can be done, and must be done. A desire for the refinements of life must be awakened; the people must acquire a desire for better habitations than they have at present, which are worse than those they occupied as slaves. Can this be done? Will they ever awake from their folly and sloth and ignorance? A quarter of a century has passed since freedom was bestowed, and we have witnessed retrogression. Can we hope for advancement in the next quarter of a century? Time, the great solver of all experiments, will prove. If we go not forward we shall assuredly go backwards, and at the end of 25 years scarcely a European will have a footing in the land.

We aver that 'tis not want of employment, not low wages, that causes our penitentiaries and gaols to fill so rapidly, but the low moral state of society, notwithstanding all the endeavours of ministers of religion, and all the schools that have been established in the land. Let the Colonial Secretary seek in the records of the petty courts for the true cause of the acknowledged increase of crime, and let him not be deluded with the assertion that "the people are suffering from hunger, cold, and "nakedness."

The statesman who can point out the method by which our peasantry may be brought into habits

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of honest industry will deserve well of his country, for with all the advantages this Island affords there is no excuse for petty theft, or cause for destitution of any kind or degree, save such as are inherent in the dispensation of Providence. In this parish, "St. David," there are now only two sugar estates, which, with the coffee properties, spend about 10,000*l.* in wages. Wages are paid weekly, and employment is seldom if ever refused, but unfortunately it is not regularly sought; labour is chiefly paid by task; and if a labourer was inclined to give a little more work he could easily earn 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.*, but after the task is completed, which is generally the case by 12 o'clock, nothing will ever induce the negro to enter upon a second.

I have, &c.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. V. Georges.

The Hon. Richard Hill to Mr. Austin.

Sir,

Spanish Town, Wednesday, March 15, 1865.

In compliance with the circular issued from the Government dated 13th March, requiring me to report "on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent among the coloured population;" noticing "the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work; the prices of ground provisions, whether they are high;" "whether work is less easily obtained or less remunerated than formerly;" and "whether the peasantry are less decently clad now than heretofore;" stating "what are the causes of any distress that may exist, with observations on the increase of the crime of larceny." I have, for the purpose of best affording the information required, detailed it statistically as far as I conveniently can.

I briefly premise that during the thirty years I have officiated in the Colony as a stipendiary magistrate having committed to me the duties of Secretary of the Special Justice Department under the Imperial Act abolishing slavery, and having opportunities necessarily of the most general information, I have never seen the Colony sunk so low in the wretchedness of "difficulty of living" as at present. That difficulty is both extraneous and not to be lessened by forethought, and internal, and directly produced by legislative action.

Of the extraneous circumstances, I notice first the civil war in America. It has narrowed both a demand for commodities produced by small settlers and a market for the great staples of commerce; it has made the supply of many articles of consumption precarious, and enhanced their prices; it has rendered the common cotton goods required in the clothing of a family threefold in rate to what they were before the war, and while it has increased the cost of living it has diminished the price of labour.

Added to these distresses, the two last years have been years of drought and of epidemic diseases; visitation of whooping cough, influenza, measles, typhoid fever, scarlatina, and smallpox.

The internal circumstances will be gathered from my report in its details.

Having no poor laws, we have no provision by assessment, in which one class is made by forced contributions to provide for another class in want. The vestries ascertain what sum is required to meet public benificence for the current year, and the Executive Government pay the sum stated by the parochial authorities as requirements for those who are registered as paupers. They meet the claims of misery, not by direct but by indirect taxation. In any case in which the distress of a family has become overwhelming in affliction or disaster that cannot be met by ordinary means, individuals are thrown upon private charity. The demands of casual benevolence prove insufficient to meet it. In wide spread suffering the distress is felt to press inordinately on every body. Such public liberality is not adequate to meet such public want.

Looking at my various notes to compare the foreign food supplies of the present time with an interval of ten years back, I find the importations to be much the same now as they were then in quantity; that is, comparing 1853 and 54 with 1864. I find the number of barrels of flour in 1853, 128,810; in 1864, 104,828; cornmeal in barrels, 18,128 in 1853; in 1864, 25,418; rice in 1853, 5,309,417 lbs.; in 1864, 6,183,713 lbs.; codfish in quintals in 1853, 104,393; and in 1854, 87,479 quintals. These have lessened to a supply of 81,084 in 1863, and to 69,548 quintals in 1864. Beef at 2,700 and pork at 10,803 barrels are much the same as average for ten years previously. The difference is most observable in the supply of codfish, and the pressure of price in all these commodities is an enhancement by 50 and 75 per cent. with an increased population.

In the supply of peas and beans, of which the consumption is considerable, as every one knows who watches the dietary of the people, the falling off in importation from 4,263 bushels in 1853 to 708 bushels in 1864 can only be accounted for in the fact that the peasantry grow more pulse themselves now and depend less on a foreign supply than formerly. The nutritiousness of pulse as food, compared with other farinaceous vegetables, is as 320 in peas meal compared with 140 in wheat flour, and 110 in maize or indian corn and 100 in rice. It contributes largely the plastic element of food. In a degree exceeding by three times rice, it yields the materials for making flesh. Other vegetables give the supplies that are exhausted in respiration. If the people should be found to add to the consumption of pulse (peas and beans) the materials consumed in respiration, such as the pulp of pumpkins, or the farinaceous meal of yams, potatoes, and cassava, the feeblest of vegetable food in the tropics, they will be able to live substantially, even though the quantity of animal food be greatly diminished in consumption.* Whether this be the means by which much of the difference between the food of importation of former years and of the present time is to be accounted for must be ascertained by careful inquiry. I am intent on showing that the supply of food by importation is nearly stationary, with a population that has augmented from 350,000 to 450,000 in a quarter of a century, and that though the people are driven to feel want they are not pressed to starvation. The drought that now prevails will, however, distress them to famine, for the earth is neither yielding fodder for beast nor food for man.

I observe in one of the provincial papers the following announcement of the weather: "The drought " in St. Elizabeth's and Westmorland has caused a great deal of loss and suffering in consequence of

* The people would learn the sufficiency of pulse and water for sustenance from the facts related in the 1st chapter of the book of Daniel, verses 11 to 17.

" the failure of crops and the difficulty experienced by persons of all classes in procuring even small " supplies of water. In Hanover and Saint James' the drought has been severe. In Trelawney there " will be a smaller amount of produce exported than there was last year. Diminished crops and " decreased prices for sugar and rum will be seriously injurious to proprietors and lessees, to persons " in trade, and to the labouring population."

Ground provisions are now one third more in price than they were six months ago; the guinea corn crop entirely failed this season; this is a lowland production; the maize or indian corn also failed; this corn is now at double the price it was six months ago; and yams, cocoas, and potatoes are at dearth prices.

The cost of clothing is enhanced to more than double what it was before the American war. On inquiring of the Kingston storekeepers the price of the common articles of apparel, so as to form an estimate of the additional difficulty the people suffer in decently and sufficiently attiring themselves, I was directed to take the augmented price of Horrock's long cloth, letter A, as an evidence. Five years ago the bale now imported at 97*l.* was invoiced at 33*l.* Common cotton prints are nearly trebled in cost by the yard; that is, 4½*d.* is now at 1*s.*; and osnaburgs, a hempen fabric used for the working dresses of the people, old and young, have been increased in price from 4*d.* to 9*d.* As the revenue charges duty at 12½ per cent. by the invoice, an augmentation of price is an increase fiscally on the commodity double and treble. At three times the invoice rate, it converts 12½ per cent. into 38, as stated by Mr. Whitelocke.

I will statistically relate the specialties of our condition with reference to work and wages.

Immediately after the compensation for the slaves emancipated from bondage had been paid, encumbered estates ceased to be cultivated. A return printed by the House of Assembly in 1843 showed that of 600 sugar plantations, 300 were immediately dismantled. Half the surface being no longer a resource for the day labourer, the labour market was cheapened by two seeking for employment where there was an opportunity only for one. 300 estates less in cultivation was an extinction of 300,000*l.* sterling annually of work and wages. There was every motive for the people to become small settlers. They ought to have taken up the position of producers, growing for trade what the large planter had ceased to create for traffic. The pressure of unemployed hands was augmented yearly by an increasing population. Our census shows that on our 350,000, the amount of inhabitants in 1834, we had augmented by 1864 to 450,000, purely the result of natural increase. Under slavery the population had decreased; under freedom they have increased. There has been a bettering of condition physically, and assuredly in a great degree morally. A great proportion of the community, however, now have no profitable occupation; it is worse than even this; they are from necessity idle, because they cannot get employment, and they are drifting into the vicious condition of people living how they can. The antagonism of the hand against one part of the community, because the hand of another part is raised in violence, is an inevitable result of the population not exactly pressing on subsistence, but on employment. Capital and new sources of productive industry and trade are the only cure for this state of evil.

Our census table of 1861 gives the return of what we may call the family status of the Colony as 89,173 inhabited houses, say 90,000; that at 5 in each dwelling is 450,000.

The enumerated male population is - -	213,521.
The enumerated female - - - - -	227,743.

Total 441,264 in 1861, say 450,000 in 1864. It has thus augmented to an excess of females over males of 15,000.

In the agricultural districts the sexes are nearly equally proportioned. The excess of females occurs in the maritime towns. Kingston in a population of 27,359 has an excess of females over males 5,391. The female whites exceed the males by 230 in 4,074; the female browns exceed the males by 2,412 in 9,948; and the female blacks 2,743 in an aggregate of 13,337. Taking the disparity of these numbers to be resolvable into a moral fact, the black population exhibit a better result than the whites and the browns. I need not go further in this analysis; Kingston may be taken as a test of all other town places. We want profitable agriculture, and to obtain it we must have a constant incoming of capital with increasing capitalists.

I thought the best and fairest way of ascertaining the character of the convictions that swell the numbers within the district prisons would be to go and take the inmates on the female side, and set down their offences, and the duration of their imprisonment, with the parishes from whence they came; and on the 13th day of March I find the list to be as follows:—

Diana Chambers, from Vere; larceny of provisions, 2d offence. Sentenced to 12 months hard labour.

Nancy Ann Thompson, from Clarendon; larceny of canes from the cane piece. Sentenced to 90 days hard labour.

Venus M'Lean, from Vere; larceny of wood from the fence. Sentenced to 30 days hard labour.

Ann Richards, from Caymanas, St. Catherine's; larceny of canes from the mill yard. Sentenced to 60 days hard labour.

Elizabeth Martin, from Vere; larceny of canes cut from the field. Sentenced to 90 days hard labour.

Elizabeth Williams, from Clarendon; larceny of provisions, 2d offence. Sentenced to 6 months hard labour.

Susan Bryans, from Clarendon; larceny of clothes. Sentenced to 3 months hard labour.

Louisa Gregory, from Clarendon; assault. Sentenced to six months hard labour.

*Ann Taylor, from Vere; larceny of canes from the mill yard. Sentenced to 6 months hard labour.

*Elizabeth Kelly, from Vere; larceny of canes from the field. Sentenced to 3 months hard labour.

*Elizabeth Bennet, from Vere; larceny of canes from the field. Sentenced to 6 months hard labour.

*Louisa Roberts, from St. Catherine's Circuit Court; larceny of corn. Sentenced to 12 months hard labour.

* Those marked thus (*) are women; the others girls.

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The superintendent of the district prison informs me that some days ago there were 26 cases of similar offences and similar sentences on the female side; that there had been drafted out by official order, to relieve the district prison, some six cases; that these are in the county gaol.

There have been cases of women sent up in a state of pregnancy, charged with plantation offences. In one instance a woman was so near her time for delivery that, before she could recover her fatigue from a foot journey of 40 miles, she was taken in labour, and delivered of her child in prison.

The following return from the district prison, from 1st April 1864 to date 14th March 1865, is an exhibition of convictions and imprisonments for the last 12 months.

Plantation offences:	Cane pillage - - - - - -	81
	Pillage of provision grounds - - - -	57
		—138
Larcenies; being a number including the draft of prisoners from the Kingston Penitentiary to the St. Catherine's district prison - -		126

The Legislature for some 12 years past has been converting, as crime, trespasses into larcenies; that is, making cane pillage (a plantation offence during crop), and stealing growing productions of the provision grounds, not commutable by payment of the value of the article taken, with the payment of a fine, but offences that must be punished undiscretionally by imprisonment and labour. The appointment of rural constables, who receive a sum for the apprehension of offenders subject to the summary jurisdiction of the magistrate, has converted the plantation system into a means of invoking the law in the favour of the employer against the labourer. The consequence is a very diligent multiplication of small offences into what are now registered as larcenies. The reference to the memorandum I made when I mustered the female prisoners of the St. Catherine's district prison on the 13th instant will show this fact.

I know not under what authority the chain-gang are subject to road labour in shackles, moving at the rate of two miles an hour from inability to walk faster; nor do I know what law authorizes the moving to road-labour, as penal gangs, offenders that are in the category of mere misdemeanants. The effect has been to make day labour on the highway discreditable to the honest man. The main road fund, hitherto expended in giving work to roadside residents, is now devoted to the payment of hired penal gangs from the prisons, under undertakings for road repair, by contract, the sum paid being a means of relieving the public cost for the maintenance of prisons, to the exclusion from the labour market of honest workpeople.

I cannot omit making in this place a remark on the exposure of criminals in the way in which they are now the subjects of punishment. It is requisite that the people should see that crimes are punished; it is necessary that all who are or would be from condition under the influence of similar motives with the criminal should know that punishment is inflicted, and be deterred from incurring the sentence of the law; and I accept the statement of Monsieur Dumont, in his Theory of Criminal Justice, that "punishment, however vile an instrument in itself, and however repugnant to generous "sentiments, rises into a blessing of the highest order when regarded, not as an act of anger or "resentment against a guilty or unfortunate person, who has yielded to hurtful propensities, but as "a sacrifice indispensably necessary to the public safety." If, however, in the punishment administered, it so addresses itself to the mind of those likely to be influenced by a similar motive with that of the criminal as to awaken their sympathy or compassion, or to turn the current of feeling from the direct and primary object of the infliction to execration and hatred of the law, it is obvious that publicity, so far from working a salutary example, becomes mischievous. "The cruelty which has "the effect of inspiring pity in the spectators towards a criminal changes the sentiment with respect "to the disgrace, and renders the criminal hardened and savage." To me the present prison discipline of the Colony seems senseless barbarity. The prisoners are put into leggings, as garments, made of a material that cannot wash, and they are overrun with vermin.

I must not omit in the statement required of me relative to the causes that have aggravated the distresses of the peasantry the repeal of the law which gave assessment of damages by immediate survey for cattle trespasses. Nothing has been substituted as a summary means of redress. The late Act, I, in conjunction with Mr. Robert Russel, the Registrar in Chancery, when he was a member of the Legislature, drew up. It was in operation till about five years ago. It had proved in instances no doubt extortionate, and may have required amendment. Decisions under it were subject to revision by the Circuit Court. It was repealed. The disadvantage of a recourse to an action for tort in the Petty Debt Court of an amount not exceeding 40*s.* is burthensome in consequence of the necessity of bringing witnesses into court from miles of distance, and from the delay before a hearing ensues, when the perceptible injury may be effaced by growth. I suggested that the county court process of England, under a direction for survey and assessment by neighbours named by the litigant parties for the "damage feasant," should be adopted; the award returned into court by the surveyors being to be the damages to be entered up as judgment; but nothing came of my recommendation. An attempt was made in the last session of the Legislature to give to persons complaining of cattle trespasses in provision grounds only a limited remedy, if the grounds had no sufficient fences; the assessment being to be made, not as for provision ground destroyed, but as for grass land trespassed upon. The only voices raised in the Legislative Council against this insufficient justice were those of Mr. M'Kinnon and Mr. Moncrieffe, both large graziers and breeders of cattle. They urged that the keeping of cattle within enclosures on the part of the grazier was an obligation as cogent as keeping cattle out by fences on the part of the provision grower, and that the true justice of the remedy was compensation for the actual injury. The proper redress for this evil, so grievous to the small settler, should be by immediate reference under the provision and guarantee of a special Act.

All the laws that have from time to time been passed which take away "the common law rights of the people," and those which convert trespasses into larcenies, punishable undiscretionally as larcenies, should be abrogated, and the limitation of Sir Robert Peel's Acts for trespasses adhered to without alteration as to character and penalty. The Jamaica Peel Acts are to be found in the 7th of William IV.

Before I conclude I would draw the attention of Government to the Act I framed for "promoting "Immigrant Settlements in the Colony by Joint Stock Companies." I have appended to this report a printed copy of the enactment for ready reference. It is the 25th of Victoria, cap. XX. of the Island Statutes. It would meet all the necessities pointed out by Dr. Underhill in his communication to the Secretary of State for the Colonies as processes for lucratively employing the unlocated peasantry, and profitably investing money in thrown-up plantations.

The drought has deteriorated and in places actually destroyed the cotton plantations. Cotton promises to be, however, advantageously made a staple export.

The state of wages just now on an average, for men and women in agricultural labour, does not exceed 9*d.* a day, of six days work in the week. The quantity of produce enumerated by the Legislature for the official year ending the 1st of October 1864 is as follows:

1864 Exports of sugar, 25,124 hogsheads, 3,872 tierces, 5,866 barrels, compared with,
1861 „ „ 32,077 hogsheads, 3,339 tierces, 6,245 barrels.
1864 „ rum, 13,502 puncheons, compared with 1861, 20,625 puncheons.
1864 „ coffee, 5,424,164 lbs., compared with 1861, 6,766,954 lbs.

Ginger has remained much the same for successive years, 6,000 cwts.; pimento 8,900,000 lbs.; logwood has increased from 17,000 to 27,000 tons; fustic from 1,600 tons to 4,000 tons. Beeswax and honey have decreased in quantity exported.

Pimento, the peculiar spice of Jamaica, has been rendered valueless since Russia, hitherto a great market for this indigenous product, by the discovery of a substitute in the vegetation on the banks of the Amoor river in central Asia, has ceased to be a market.

I would add in conclusion that the moral not the physical attributes of power are to be deemed enough for the purposes of security and order. I am sensibly impressed with the fact that the desire for liberty without the restraints of religion will render the people less capable of preserving it, and of making a wise and beneficial use of it. There should be a system of ragged schools adopted in every district similar to that existing in the parish of St. Catherine.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh. Wm. Austin.

(Signed) RICHARD HILL,
Stipendiary Magistrate and Senior Resident Magistrate of the Precinct of St. Catherine.

JAMAICA, Ss.

25 Victoria, Chapter 20.

An Act for promoting immigrant settlements in the Colony by joint stock companies.

Preamble.

It being expedient to encourage the settlement of lands by immigrants, and to effect such settlement by the aid of joint stock companies, and that a general law should exist to enable joint stock companies to purchase and hold lands for the purposes aforesaid, be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of this Island, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, as follows:

Persons may form themselves into a company for the settlement of immigrants in townships;

First.—Any number of persons, not less than twenty, in any parish of this Island, may form themselves into a parochial company for the settlement of immigrants on lands and in townships under the provisions of this Act; and such company, so formed, shall be called the company for promoting agricultural settlements, the name of the parish in which and for which the joint stock is subscribed being set before the word company, as its name and title; in case of more companies than one being established in any one parish under this Act, they shall be numbered respectively (on the establishment of the second) Nos. 1, 2, and so forth, arithmetically in succession; and all vouchers and documents of such companies shall be so distinctively numbered as to prevent confusion of the transactions of one company with those of another in the same parish.

and become a body corporate capable of holding lands, &c.;

Second.—When any number of persons, not less than twenty, shall have subscribed a sufficient quantity of stock, divided into a thousand shares, to amount to a sum equal in their judgment to the amount required for the purchase of the lands requisite for subdivision into farms for settling immigrant families, and have executed an instrument in the form of the schedule in this Act contained, and have paid to the treasurer of such intended company a fifth amount of each share, amounting to one thousand shares, intended to cover the capital stock of the said company, to be raised for the purpose aforesaid, and have registered in the office of public records of this Island such instrument at full length, together with a receipt from the treasurer of such company for such first instalment of one fifth on each and every share, such company shall thereupon and thenceforth become and be a body corporate by such name as designates the parish for which such settlements on lands to be allotted in farms, shall be intended; and such company, and their successors, by their corporate name, shall be capable of taking, purchasing, having, and holding such lands, with their appurtenances and rights as shall be designed and intended for the settlements aforesaid; and they shall be authorized and empowered to do all that shall be requisite, by byelaws to be passed according to the regulations of this Act, for the business of the settlements formed and to be formed, and for the management of the affairs of the said company.

and manage their concerns by directors.

Third.—The affairs, property, and concerns of every such company formed under the provisions of this Act shall be managed by not less than five nor more than ten directors, who shall be shareholders, and subjects of Her Majesty by birth or naturalization, and a majority of whom shall be a quorum, capable of doing business.

How such directors are to be chosen, and when.

Fourth.—The said directors shall in the first instance be chosen from among the subscribers to the instrument recorded as aforesaid, and thereafter shall be annually elected by the stockholders of the company on the second Tuesday in January, or on the next succeeding Tuesday in each and every year; and upon the first and every such election of directors each shareholder shall be entitled to one vote for every share he may hold or be possessed of, up to five, and one vote for every

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five shares above five; but no stockholder shall be entitled to more than ten votes in all, or be allowed to vote at any election unless he has paid all calls upon each share he may hold.

They are to elect a president,

Fifth.—The directors or a majority of them shall, at their first annual meeting, elect one of their number to be president of such company; and the president, if present (or if not present then some director chosen for the occasion), shall preside at all meetings, and in case of equality shall have the casting vote.

and make byelaws, &c.

Sixth.—The said directors may pass byelaws for the regulation of the affairs of such company, and shall keep a book, in which shall be recorded all byelaws and proceedings, and to which any person shall have access for the purpose of searching the same and making extracts therefrom, without payment of any fee whatsoever.

Every company must have a secretary, treasurer, &c.

Seventh.—Every such company shall have a secretary and treasurer, and such subordinate officers as the company by its byelaws may require, who shall be elected by the directors, and required to give such security for the faithful performance of the duties of their respective offices as the company by its byelaws, may provide.

Byelaws to be settled by a barrister.

Eighth.—The byelaws of the company shall be settled and approved by a barrister-at-law, practising in this Island, to be appointed by the Governor, for which service he shall receive from the said company a fee of three guineas, and for every after revision of the said byelaws, or settlement of any additional or supplemental byelaw, a fee of one guinea additional.

Each share to be not more than 10*l.* nor less than 1*l.*, and transferable.

Ninth.—Each share in every such company shall be ten pounds at most, and not less than one pound, to be determined in amount and paid at the formation of the company, and shall be regarded as personal property, and shall be transferable upon the books of such company in such manner as may be provided for by the directors in that behalf.

Directors may make calls when they think proper.

Tenth.—The directors of any such company may call in and demand from the stockholders thereof respectively all sums of money by them subscribed, at such times and in such payments or instalments as such directors may deem proper, under the penalty of forfeiting the shares of stock subscribed for or held, and all previous payments made thereon, if payment be not made by the stockholders respectively called upon within thirty days after a written demand, or after notice requiring such payment has been published for four successive weeks in the newspaper nearest the place where the business of the company is being carried on as aforesaid.

Company may sell lands, &c.,

Eleventh.—Any such company, so incorporated as aforesaid, may sell and dispose of, and enfeoff to any immigrant settler desiring to locate on lands of the said company, such quantities of such lands as may be desirable for a freehold farm, or the said company may accept any settler for a conditional tenant and eventual purchaser of such lands, to be fixed and determined in the conditions of such tenancy and eventual purchase by an instrument in writing, according as may be deemed necessary and expedient for the purpose intended, which said instrument shall be entered and registered in the register book kept for that purpose, and the payments made in compliance with such conditional tenancy and purchase shall be duly entered in the register book of the said company, and a full title for the lands so occupied and settled shall be given to such immigrant settler when all the conditions of his tenancy and purchase shall have been duly satisfied and paid.

and lend money to any settler.

Twelfth.—Any such company so incorporated as aforesaid shall be empowered and authorized to make loans of money to any settler occupying or purchasing land as aforesaid, such loan to be conditioned to be expended in building or settling the farm aforesaid occupied by such settler; the said money so supplied to the said settler, to be guaranteed to the said company on bond, not exceeding the sum of twenty-five pounds on any single loan; and the said company aforesaid may receive a sum not exceeding ten per cent. per annum on such loans aforesaid from the settler to whom such advances in money aforesaid shall have been made.

It need not set out the special matter in any action for recovery of money.

Thirteenth.—In any action or suit brought by any such company against any stockholder to recover any money due for any call, it shall not be necessary to set forth the special matter, but it shall be sufficient for the company to aver that the defendant is the holder of one share or more (stating the number of shares) in the stock of the said company, and that he is indebted to the company in the sum of money to which the calls in arrear amount, in respect of one call or more upon one share or more (stating the number and amount of each such calls), whereby an action hath accrued to the company by virtue of this Act.

Nature of proof at hearing of such action.

Fourteenth.—On the trial or hearing of such action it shall be sufficient for the company to prove that the defendant, at the time of making such call, was the holder of one share or more in the undertaking (and when there has been no transfer of the shares, then the proof of subscription to the original agreement to take stock shall be sufficient evidence of holding stock to the amount subscribed), and that such call was in fact made, and notice thereof given as is required; and it shall not be necessary for the company to prove the appointment of the directors who made such call or any other matter whatsoever; and thereupon the company shall be entitled to recover the amount due upon such call, with interest thereon, unless it appears that due notice of such call was not given.

Portions of land may be set apart for a church, &c.

Fifteenth.—Any company so incorporated as aforesaid may set apart, by deed for the purpose, such piece or parcel of land, forming part of the freehold of the said company, for a church or chapel for the public worship of God, or for a school for the use of the settlers, or for any public purpose, having for its object the accommodation of the inhabitants of the settlement; and such title for such land for the purposes aforesaid may be granted to trustees either named or from time to time hereafter to be appointed in conformity to any law that exists or may exist relating to trustees for churches or chapels, or schools or public institutions, such grant of land having been first approved of and agreed to at a public meeting of the shareholders and inhabitants of the settlement, duly convened by the directors of such company aforesaid for such especial object or objects.

Stockholder, &c. of company competent to be a witness.

Sixteenth.—If any action or suit be brought by or against any such company upon any contract, or upon any matter or thing whatsoever, any stockholder, or any officer or servant of the company, shall be competent as a witness, and his testimony shall not be deemed inadmissible on the ground of interest, or of his being such servant or officer.

SCHEDULE.

JAMAICA, Ss.

Be it remembered, that on this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and we, the undersigned stockolders, met at in the county of in the Island of Jamaica, and resolved to form ourselves into a company, to be called (here insert the name of the company by the name of the parish in which it shall be formed, and the lands situate), according to the provisions of a certain Act of the Island, intituled "An Act for promoting immigrant settle-"ments in the Colony," for the purpose of purchasing lands in the said parish in the county of , and parcelling and allotting the same in settlements for immigrant settlers and for the purposes of agriculture; and we do hereby declare that the capital of the said company shall be pounds sterling, to be divided into one thousand shares at the price or sum of each; and we, the undersigned stockholders, do hereby agree to take and accept the number of shares set by us opposite to our respective signatures; and we do hereby agree to pay the calls thereon, according to the provisions of the aforesaid Act, and of the rules and regulations, resolutions and byelaws of the said company, to be made or passed in that behalf; and we do hereby nominate (the names to be here inserted) to be the first directors of the said company.

NAME.	NUMBER OF SHARES.	AMOUNT.

Passed the Assembly this 9th day of December 1861.
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
Speaker pro tem.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 24th day of January 1862.
(Signed) W. G. STEWART,
Clerk to the Legislative Council.

I consent, this 31 [31st] day of January 1862.
(Signed) C. H. DARLING.

Vera copia extu.

Annual Report of St. Catherine's Ragged Schools, for the year ending December 31, 1864.

Nature of Instruction, principally Oral Religious Training (learning on this plan).

Texts of Scripture, psalms, collects, proverbs, hymns, church catechism, Watts's catechism, Trew's catechism, 1st and 2d series of Glasgow Infant School Magazine.

Scripture histories, &c. read by teachers, with explanations from such books as "Peep of Day," "Line upon Line," and other periodical publications for children.

1st, 2d, and 3d Lesson Books of Irish National Board of Education.

Instruction in reading carried on very gradually as preparation, by eight years of age, for higher educational schooling.

Number of Children under Instruction, between 70 and 80.

Regulations.

I.—Every benevolent subscriber of sixpence per month is entitled to send a poor child to the school for instruction.

II.—Donations of half-worn articles of dress, or of cloth to make common wearing apparel, or of osnaburgh, to be given to the children of the school, thankfully received.

III.—Donations in money to be appropriated to the payment of teachers' salaries, or rent of school-room, or the purchase of books for children.

IV.—Each child required to be at school for (at least) four days in the week; to attend the Friday early service in the Cathedral to be catechised; to attend Sunday morning service; and to be present at Sunday school.

Children from age of four to nine years.

REPORT.

The first examination of the school established on the principle of the Earl of Shaftesbury's ragged school took place in the National School Room in the Cathedral Square, Spanish Town, on Thursday the 22d December last. These schools have been established by the rector, the Reverend Joseph Williams, since his appointment to the parish, and afford a satisfactory evidence of what has been done

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in St. Catherine's, and what might and ought to be done everywhere else. The children, male and female, numbered between 70 and 80, and were of ages from four years to about twelve, for the most part approximating to eight, the greater number being under eight years. At a time when eruptive fevers were prevalent among the young, their appearance was that of health and cheerfulness.

Before these children were collected in these schools, they were rather unclad than clad in rags; they are now clothed in very humble clothing indeed, not exceeding the quality of osnaburgh; but they are scrupulously clean. They all mustered shoeless, an evidence of the poverty-stricken homes from which they had been gathered.

The rector, Mr. Williams, in his address, when proceeding to subject the scholars to examination, explained, that hitherto education was considered as performing its part in elementary instruction. But teaching to accomplish tutoring for life properly embraces rectitude of the heart, as well as expansion of the mind. Such tuition must commence before the age at which elementary instruction is usually imparted. The friendly arm must be stretched to children that poverty left to nature. At this age motives should be excited. The only motive to right conduct is the love of God; a sense of duty that emanates from a desire to stand accepted in the sight of the Being by whose bounty we lived, and whom we would seek not to offend, from affection rather than from dread. The teaching of the scholars might be termed supervision, rather than schooling; instruction in duty, rather than the tuition of books. It was tutoring as well as teaching, drilling to habits of thought as well as action. The efficacy was to be seen in the guidance of the heart in co-operation with the education of the mind. One of the manifest recommendations of these primary schools was the opportunity it affords to females, having aptitude for home-life, to be profitably employed in the labour of expanding that home-life into the business of the school. The practicability of carrying the system he had inaugurated in St. Catherine's was to be found in the success with which it taught the child his dependence upon God for the mercy of salvation as well as the bounty of subsistence.

The rector mentioned one instance in which the instruction and drilling of the children in his ragged school was the witness of a good confession in the present prevalence of smallpox, with its occasional mortal consequences. One of the children of the school was smitten down, and was dying. It afforded an opportunity to test what the child had learnt relative to his childhood accountability in death. He was asked, was he aware he would die? He answered, he thought he would die. Was he afraid to die? He replied, no, he was not afraid to die. Why was he not afraid to die? Had he not been taught he was a sinner? Had done many naughty and wicked things, and deserved punishment? Yes, he knew he was a sinner; he had been taught that sin brought with it punishment, but he was not afraid to die. Why then, when so convinced and so taught, was he not afraid to die? Because God would have mercy on him, for Jesus Christ had died for him. Having made this confession of his faith, he calmly breathed away his soul in death.

After the children had been questioned haphazard on their obvious duties in life, as evidences of their acquaintance with what should constitute right conduct, the Speaker (the Hon. C. H. Jackson) and the Island Secretary (the Hon. Mr. Austin), who had attended the inspection, quitted. When Mr. Richard Hill, the Senior Magistrate of the Precinct, being called upon to address the children, turning up to the thirtieth chapter of Proverbs, delivered a condensed commentary on the words of the Prophet Agur. Agur had desired "to learn wisdom, and to have the knowledge of a person that was holy," and he found his desire accomplished in the teaching of the "pure word of God." He dilated on the two things that Agur required of God, when he asked that they "might not be denied him before he died," and then reading the successive verses, in which he recapitulated what was desired, he commented on them practically.

"Remove from me vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me." These Agur required, "lest he should deny God, and say in denying him, Who is the Lord? or lest being poor, he should be tempted to steal, and take the name of his God in vain." Having placed before them, by illustration, this prayer of Agur, Mr. Hill proceeded to descant on the verses succeeding, in which Agur depicted the people as they were to be seen before the eyes of every one, who knew anything of daily life. "There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother." "There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness." These are the men and women, who, though they dress fine, and appear by their dress to be genteel, yet stand accused before the magistrates at the Peace Office of outraging decency by abominable and filthy language. "There is a generation, O how lofty are their own eyes, "and their eyelids are lifted up." The proud who treat persons beneath them with contempt, and forget there are such humbling and loathing afflictions as smallpox. "There is a generation, whose "teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the "needy from among men." Those who cheat, defraud, and withhold from the labourer his honest earnings, by refusing to pay what they owe. All these characters were duly illustrated, and the little hearers were enjoined to do their duty in life, that they might be respected, and die in the consolation of faithfully serving God and man.

The children, after singing some appropriate hymns, and the National Anthem, were regaled with a supply of buns and beverage, and separated, concluding with the doxology.

All the visitors felt greatly gratified with what they had witnessed, and thankfully acknowledged that the Reverend Mr. Williams had accomplished a great good by the work he had so effectually performed.

The Honourable Custos LOWE to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Chapelton, Clarendon, March 20, 1865.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and also of a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to his Excellency Governor Eyre, and a copy of Dr. Underhill's communication to the Secretary of State on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population, and requesting my opinion upon the remarks contained in the communication aforesaid.

With regard to the distress said to exist in this Island, I do not think it applies to this parish, although at the present moment, in consequence of the prevailing drought, the price of ground provisions is somewhat above the average.

I can observe no difference in the appearance of the labouring classes, either on holidays or other days, but I have often heard the remark that the people are poorer. Several managers of estates have told me this, and on being asked as to the cause the reply is always the same, the disinclination to work; that when creoles and coolies are employed on the same task-work, the coolies earn more wages, and do far better work. Continuous labour is never obtainable from the creoles, and there is little doubt that but for the introduction of coolies the few estates remaining in cultivation in this, the mountainous district of the parish, would have been long since abandoned.

The ordinary rate of daily wages has not varied for a long period, and continues to be one shilling, but there are exceptional cases, and on some estates in the lowlands it has been reduced to 9*d.*; there, however, the time given as a day's labour is materially less than in this district, being about six hours, instead of eight hours, as with us; it follows that for the actual working hours the pay is the same in both districts.

I may be permitted in this place to mention a remarkable fact: The abandonment of estates has not in any instance added to the labour market, or benefited the neighbouring properties in cultivation, and two instances of the kind have occurred to my knowledge within the twelvemonth.

I date the great increase of the crime of larceny from the period of the revival mania, four years ago; great numbers of the small settlers, mostly young people, neglected their provision grounds at that time, and have never resumed the cultivation of them, but live by plundering their neighbours.

No one can visit our police courts without being struck with the appearance of the parties tried for this offence, who are almost invariably strong and able-bodied.

With reference to the (opposition) speech of the Honourable Mr. Whitelock in the House of Assembly, quoted by Dr. Underhill, I would remark, that I have no means at hand of ascertaining if it has been correctly reported; but there can be no question as to the inaccuracy of some of the statements contained in the extract appended to Dr. Underhill's communication. I would instance one article of clothing of indispensable use, osnaburgh, which before the rise of price in cotton was sold at 4½*d.* is now 7½*d.* per yard, and a superior article of the same kind, formerly 6*d.*, is now 9*d.* a yard. The advance on cotton goods I believe to be between 60 and 80* per cent., being higher, as in the case of osnaburgh, on low-priced goods.

I have, &c.

The Hon. W. Austin,
Government Secretary.

(Signed) Francis Lowe,
Custos of Clarendon.

The Honourable A. J. Lindo to Mr. Austin.

Sir, Friendship, St. Mary, March 20, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Despatch dated 13th instant, with copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with a copy of a communication from the Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst the coloured population.

How far the remarks contained in Dr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring class of this parish, I have to say, that the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work has not varied for the last few years; that the labouring class have for a considerable time been content to take a task for one shilling which is usually finished in four or five hours, after which they retire from work satisfied to earn a shilling, and return to their homes.

The price of ground provisions have varied within the last few years, occasioned from different causes. At the time the so-called revivals took possession of the people, the neglect of their fields occasioned a scarcity the following year; the floods of last year operated somewhat on the supply, but on the whole the price did not seriously affect the labouring class in this parish. At the present time, ground provisions are at a reasonable rate, in small quantities. The principal description in this parish, such as yams, can be obtained at the rate of about 4*s.* 3*d.* to 5*s.* per 100 hs.

Many sugar estates in this parish have of late years been abandoned. Notwithstanding, the number of labourers who desire estates' work find ready employment at prices quite as remunerative to them as heretofore.

The peasantry generally are as well to do as they have been for some years past; and as to the state of their dress, there has been a very marked improvement within the last twenty years. Their appearance on the Sundays only those who are acquainted with them know them for labouring people.

The state of nudity said to exist in some parts of the Colony certainly does not appear here, nor is there that extreme distress as represented in Dr. Underhill's letter. I can with safety say that in this parish the public eye is never shocked by that indecent exposure of the person or extreme poverty as depicted. That the number of paupers have increased chargeable to the public within the last few years is true, the cause of which is in the fact that formerly the younger people cheerfully supported their old and crippled relatives, but as their privileges became developed to them they discovered that as taxpayers they were entitled to claim parochial aid for their aged and disabled relatives, and they fully take advantage of it.

My local experience tells me that the people of this parish need never suffer the want and distress as represented; that every working man or woman can find employment. Land here is easily procured; can be rented at from 12*s.* to 24*s.* per acre per annum. With the smallest amount of industry on an acre of such land a man and his family can support themselves.

That there is more idleness than there used to be is accounted for in this way. The old uneducated people feel a natural pride in their children whom they have afforded sufficient education to read, and the mistaken idea takes possession of them that those who can read should not be common labourers; the pride of the parent in having a child partially educated induces a mistaken leniency, which leads

* Mr. Whitelock puts it at 200 per cent.

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as a matter of course to disorderly habits, and thus many of them turn out bad members of society. This in a little time must work its own cure.

Petty larceny has increased of late years, the cause of which is in a great degree to be found in the want of proper supervision over the people, one of the most difficult things in a parish like this, where the peasantry are scattered, and in such localities as make the approach to many a matter of very great difficulty. As in all communities, some idle and depraved characters will be found, but the generality of the peasantry here are orderly and industrious, and steadily frequent their several places of worship.

Summonses for petty debts to the extent represented do not exist in this parish.

The peasantry here not only raise ground provisions, but many produce the staple of the Colony, sugar and coffee, beeswax, cocoa, arrowroot, starch, tobacco, cotton, and other minor products, such as pease, &c., all of which they readily dispose of in the parish at remunerative prices to them, and meet with every encouragement. There are no charges or local taxation on these products, when sold in small quantities to the merchant. The trifling export duty is never taken in account.

In the taxation of the Colony there is no distinction as to parishes or classes. As his Excellency will himself, no doubt deal with this subject, I refrain from any remark, further than to say, I fail to discover in this parish any difference in the dress or appearance of the people since prices have increased on the principal articles of clothing.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Government Secretary.

(Signed) A. J. LINDO, Custos.

The Honourable Custos MACKINNON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, The Whim, March 17, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your Despatch on the subject of Mr. Underhill's letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, requesting to know how far the remarks in that letter are applicable to the labouring classes of Vere; whether the ordinary rate of wages has varied much in that district, stating what the daily price now is; whether the price of ground provisions has risen greatly or is unreasonably high now; if work is less easily obtained and less remunerated than in former years, and whether the peasantry generally are less well off, or less decently clad than heretofore.

And I observe that his Excellency would also be glad to learn my views as to the causes of any distress that exists, together with any observations which the subjects touched upon in Dr. Underhill's letter may suggest, or my own local experience enable me to offer.

In reply, I beg to state that the ordinary rate of wages has been well maintained in Vere, with indeed a constant tendency upwards since the cholera in 1851, till within the last two years. Since the May seasons failed in 1863, coming as that misfortune did with a great fall in the prices of sugar and rum, and followed by the failure of the October seasons in 1864, wages are certainly lower on the sugar estates, and there is a somewhat smaller number employed; not smaller in proportion to the smallness of the crops, as whether the canes give a good or bad yield, they must still be cut down and ground off, but somewhat smaller. The daily rate of wages may now be said to be from 9*d.* to 1*s.*, although first-class people, in such work as cane carrying and cane hole digging, can still earn from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* Two years ago where we now pay 9*d.* and 1*s.* we should have paid 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*, but if we have the usual rains in May next the demand for labour would be so great that it is not to be expected that the planters would be able to maintain these rates. Wages would probably range as high as ever, the usual condition of things being that the supply of labour is not equal to the demand.

The drought scarcely affects the mountain districts, where the bulk of the provisions are grown. The markets are still well supplied, and the prices, I am informed, not higher than usual, and there is always an ample supply of American breadstuffs in the different shops in the district.

Since the drought, the peasantry must be poorer, as is every one, but I have not observed that they are less decently clad at any public place. At work, some do wear shabbier clothes, but no one to whom I have spoken on the subject has seen this go to the length of indecency.

A reference to the office of the clerk of the peace shows that larcenies have increased since the drought; but I do not think that our people have generally the excuse of want, "little removed from starvation," for stealing; they steal because they are much more idle and much more dissolute than they were some years ago, and when money does not come easily to them a good many—I am afraid a majority—will steal whatever comes to their hand. For a long time after they were free they took some pride in their conduct, but this seems much to have ceased. Then a proportion is composed of a loose set of young men, who have grown up far removed from white people, that is, from law and civilization, and they steal without shame, as the easiest and pleasantest way of living, the extreme leniency with which the laws have been administered here having been in my opinion a great encouragement to them.

To say that there is anything like distress among the great bulk of the labouring people of this country is in my opinion incorrect; that is to say, what is meant by distress in England. I do not think that any able person need ever want food, or can't get work, if he wishes to take it at a reasonable rate; at least it seems to me to be so in my district; if it were otherwise it surely would, in some at least, take the form of begging, as it does in other countries; yet in the whole district from Manchester Mountains to Spanish Town, a distance from 36 to 40 miles, and 10 or 12 broad, with which I am well acquainted, I have never seen but one beggar, and he is blind, and it is notorious that this district is the driest in the Island.

Mr. Underhill remarks that there is neither work for the people, nor the capital to employ them. This seems to me quite a mistake. It has always struck me that there is a great deal of capital connected with Jamaica. This is in part owing to a number of wealthy English families who have originally sprung from the Island, and who cling to their ancestral properties for other reasons than purely financial ones. A large number of estates has been sustained through very bad times, and under heavy losses, owing to this cause. Then the carrying trade is a paying one, and connects a number of wealthy merchants with it. I have always considered that the Island was peculiarly fortunate in having so

much capital connected with it. Year by year it no doubt becomes less; the old proprietors occasionally sell out. Fresh capital does not readily come in; but the great thing that deters it I believe to be, the uncertainty and dearness of labour in proportion to the value of our products. If we had a population of three or four millions, so that people must work or starve, as in England, capital would come here, as it goes elsewhere when it can be profitably employed.

Mr. Underhill says, that "those who grow produce for exportation are very few, and they meet "with every kind of disencouragement to prosecute a means of support as advantageous to the Island "as to themselves." This seems to me an error. On the contrary, I should say that they are very numerous; and what possible discouragement can be given to people to settle in a country where land is abundant and very cheap; often not more than a few shillings an acre? (I know 600 acres of good provision land in the mountains sold the other day for 160*l.*, after having been long offered for 200*l.*) Where titles are cheap (a printed one, which is commonly used, and which any educated person can fill up, costs 10*s.*), and where there is no tax on the land but the quit-rent of 1*d.* an acre, what better state of things for a labouring people could exist in any country? and the consequence is, the Island is gradually getting covered with nice cottages and thriving settlements, where not only vegetables, but sugar and coffee, are grown to a considerable extent. On this side of the country, the Manchester Mountains, the Clarendon Mountains, St. John's and St. Dorothy's Mountains, are full of them. Great numbers of settlements also exist in Vere, although there the people find it more profitable to labour on the large estates than to grow produce for exportation.

Mr. Underhill remarks on the refusal of the Legislature to give just tribunals; what kind of tribunals he does not say; but I presume that he means a paid magistracy to adjudicate on the complaints of the people. I may say, therefore, that as far as I have been able to observe I consider that justice is administered by the magistracy of Jamaica as purely as in any country in the world, and generally in a spirit of leniency rather than otherwise. The appeals from their decisions to the higher courts seem to me to be very few indeed.

That the country is often and justly called far from being a prosperous one is true, but its want of prosperity refers to those chiefly who live on the profits of capital, and who are the talking and writing portion of its people; but that the great bulk of the human family who live within it leave peacefully, and with as large a share of comfort and happiness, as in most parts of the world, is in my opinion undeniable. They are poor, because they are very improvident; but, like most improvident people, they are careless and merry, and in the main contented with their lot.

I have, &c.

The Hon. H. W. Austin. (Signed) LEWIS MACKINNON,
Custos of Vere.

The Honourable Custos HOLLINGSWORTH to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Brumalia, March 26, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a circular, of date 13th instant, from his Excellency the Governor, together with the copy Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the copy letter of Dr. Underhill mentioned therein, and now have the honour to furnish such information as I can upon the subjects inquired after by his Excellency.

I am not aware of any such distress in this parish as that depicted in the letter of Dr. Underhill. The industrious portion of the peasantry are as well off and as well clad as they ever have been, and although the stealing of growing provisions has considerably increased, yet the state of crime in general is not now worse than heretofore.

There is no marked increase in the number of petty debt summonses, except by reason of the extended jurisdiction of the justices to cases of tort not exceeding forty shillings. The present system of taxation is less felt by the peasant than the large proprietor or householder, for, with the exception of the taxation raised on the imports and exports, all the other taxes are direct, and one only pays for the articles which he enjoys the use of. The house tax, however, of 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound falls upon possessors of houses of the annual value of 12*l.* and upwards. The peasant, therefore, can enjoy his neat little cottage, with from ten to twenty acres of land, for the paltry land tax of one penny per acre; many of them selling from three to five tierces of coffee, and having four or five stock, paying a tax of one shilling each; while the other classes owning houses of and above 12*l.* annual value pay a sum of at least 18*s.* per annum for their habitations.

There are instances of children being insufficiently clad, but this arises sometimes from the neglect of the parents, sometimes from orphanage, and in the majority of cases from a determination in the child to vagrancy, a condition almost invariably attributable to the carelessness of the parents in the proper training of their offspring.

With the exception of those rendered helpless by old age, disease, or some other infirmity, there need not be any state of mendicancy among the peasantry on the score of poverty caused by inability to get employment, as wages remain the same as heretofore, namely, 1*s.* for men, 9*d.* for women, 7½*d.*, 6*d.*, and 4½*d.* for boys and girls, according to age and strength, per day; and they can always find employment, because the cultivation of coffee in the parish has for some years past been on the increase by the peasantry cultivating all their lands in coffee. Ground provisions have risen in price within the last few years, but this is owing partly to the revival movement, partly to the drought which has prevailed for the last two years, and partly by the destruction caused by the flood in May last.

In addition to these observations, I may add my opinion that the peasantry could, if they chose, considerably increase this description of cultivation, and thereby lessen the prices of these products, because their is no difficulty in obtaining land, for provision grounds at a rental of from 16*s.* to 20*s.* per acre per annum; and each acre of good land properly cultivated, is capable of yielding for a few years a handsome return of from 10*l.* to 20*l.* per annum. With such advantages of making an easy and independent livelihood as the peasantry of this parish, or I may say of the Island at large, possess, I am at a loss to account for the marked increase in the number of petty thefts, more particularly of growing provisions. I am however disposed to attribute it in the first instance to an absence of those high moral and religious principles by which the human race should be actuated in respecting and upholding the

JAMAICA.

Divine as well as the municipal law; and in the second place, to the hitherto insufficient state of the law for punishing offenders of this class; and I can suggest no better mode of arresting the progress of crime than by the education of the lower classes, and the extensive establishment of reformatories and industrial schools, where juvenile delinquents may be so trained as to become good, industrious, and useful Christian members of society.

I have, &c.

Honourable H. W. Austin,
Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) JOHN H. HOLLINGSWORTH,
Custos of Manchester.

Judge CARGILL to Mr. AUSTIN.

Spring Garden, Kingston, P.O.,
April 15, 1865.

Sir,

In reply to the letter of his Excellency the Governor, addressed to the Chief Justice and the Assistant Judges of the Supreme Court, I beg to say that I have some difficulty in making any remarks on Mr. Underhill's letter, from the general manner in which the statements are made, and, notwithstanding its truthfulness in parts, the exaggeration which pervades the whole, I can only therefore give the results of my own experience without following the latter seriatim.

As far as the courts over which I have presided are concerned, I cannot say "that crime has fearfully increased." The amount of serious crime is not very large, and it is neither on the increase or decrease, but very fluctuating, a heavy court being followed by a light one, and vice versa. Mr. Underhill, however, seems afterwards to restrict his statement to the one offence of "larceny."

The crime under this head which has increased, is not generally tried in the circuit courts but before the magistrates in petty sessions, and that it cannot be fairly attributed to the drought may be inferred from the fact that the last three or four years, while the seasons were good and the drought had not been felt, the grand juries of the respective parishes have been calling attention to the increase of petty larcenies, and praying for the adoption of some adequate punishment for them.

With regard to the larcenies which came before the circuit courts, I have long paid attention to them, and I cannot recall one instance in which I would say they were caused by destitution. They seem to me to result rather from the readiness of the negroes to yield to very slight temptation, to the deficiency of their moral sense regarding the right of property, to there being no disgrace attached in their minds to the idea of crime or its consequences, and to their having little dread of the punishment by imprisonment in the penitentiaries or district prisons. I have for some time ceased to consider imprisonment or penal servitude either reformatory or deterrent, and merely look upon it as a means of keeping criminals out of the way of doing mischief for a time to the rest of the community. Without wishing to see corporal punishment further adopted, except for such crimes as rape and unnatural offences, I must say that it is the only sentence I have seen regarded with terror by offenders. As, however, imprisonment must be the chief punishment, and I cannot hope for any immediate diminution of crime, I should say the course lately adopted of utilizing the labour of prisoners on the public roads, and of reducing their food and allowance to a standard just sufficient for the maintenance of health, is the one most likely to palliate an evil which cannot be overcome.

No benefit to be derived from education or moral training can be immediate, the opportunity for sound education of the present generation having been passed by. As Secretary of the Board of Education and Inspector of Schools for the eight years after 1846, I saw at first how undue weight was given by the newly emancipated negroes to superficial book learning, while (possibly in consequence of the reaction from slavery) the slightest discipline was submitted to with impatience, and when enforced was considered a reason for removing children from school. I first received my appointment from the late Earl of Elgin, and I quote him with the greatest respect as having been decidedly favourable to compulsory education.

This may for the future be a slow means of giving some moral sense to the lower orders; and in any system to be adopted mere book learning should be subservient to industry, obedience, humility, punctuality, and habits of order, based, if possible, on sound principles of piety, but if not taught, even mechanically as a soldier receives his training.

While I believe that the greater part of any destitution which may prevail (except in the infirm and aged) arises from the idleness and improvidence of the sufferers, it is impossible not to remark how much comfort exists among the industrious part of the negroes. The number of horses, mules, and donkeys owned by them has not diminished. On market days the public roads are still thronged with persons carrying provisions; and the dresses worn on Sundays and other public days are far beyond what might be necessary for mere decency or comfort. If there be not sufficient employment for the people, it is because they have of their own accord withdrawn from the old established routine of employment; but I quite agree with Mr. Underhill that any method of turning the attention of the people to the minor productions of the country would be beneficial to them. A thinly peopled tropical country is not well adapted to employment in manufactures; but this Island is essentially fitted for agriculture and grazing, and any means which could be suggested for disposing of the produce of small settlers, free from the extortion of middlemen and higglers, would encourage productions.

I state with deference my belief, that any improvement in this Island must begin by an alteration in the Legislature of the Island. The House of Assembly, as now constituted, is not only obstructive to all useful progress, but must, from its character and conduct, exercise a demoralizing effect upon the population; and one body, composed of a smaller number of elected representatives, to which some nominees of the Government might be added, would be more likely to discover beneficial measures, and to assist the Government in giving effect to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JASPER F. CARGILL,
Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Harrison to Hon. H. W. Austin. Jamaica.

Sir, Old Harbour Bay, St. Dorothy, March 20, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the 13th instant, as by direction of his Excellency the Governor, accompanying a despatch from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a copy of a letter from Dr. Underhill on the present condition of Jamaica and the distress prevalent amongst its coloured population.

That crime has greatly increased, and that the number of prisoners in the penitentiary and other prisons are considerably more than the average, and that the majority of them are for the crime of larceny and petty thefts, are undeniably true; but that the true origin of the crime of larceny and petty thefts arises from the extreme poverty of the people is a mistake. No person who is not incapacitated by sickness or the infirmity of old age but may at all times get work and pay sufficient to procure food and clothing. With many of the guilty party they are actuated by a mania or proneness to steal, finding it much easier to do so than to labour, running the chance at all times of detection which, but in few cases out of the many, happens.

This description of offenders consists of a large majority of the uneducated and irreligious portion of the inhabitants.

Whilst on this subject I may be permitted to offer a few observations which suggest to my mind a better cure for the crime of larceny and petty thefts than the use of the contemplated emblem of slavery, namely, the whip. Why may not localities of Crown land be selected that is congenial and adapted for the growth and culture of cotton, and be converted into penal settlements, under strict prison discipline, and have the overwhelming number of prisoners now in the several prisons of the Island located thereon for the cultivation of cotton. I am sure if cotton was cultivated largely by convict labour it would fetch a price in the British markets that would render the institution self-supporting, and the income arising therefrom would be more than sufficient to pay the expense of the feed of the prisoners and other contingencies of the establishments, and would effect a large saving in the revenue of the country for prison expense, and any surplus arising from the labour of the prisoners may go to assist in the making of good roads, preparatory to meet any line of railroad which may hereafter be constructed.

That the heavy impost on imported food from America and other countries, and the very high prices of cotton goods, and indeed of most of the articles of clothing, has borne heavily on the humbler classes is undeniable; but that any of our people are so wretchedly poor as to be destitute of clothing, or that they eschew the same, is also a mistake. The better sort of our peasantry are to be seen on Sundays or holidays clad in very expensive materials of clothing, such as broad cloth, &c. The domestic servants try to outvie each other in fine dress. Whenever I see a person clad in tatters and rags, and who is able to work, I set him down to be either a thief or a drunkard.

I am not aware that the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work has undergone any material change to that of former years. The pay now for adults is 1*s.* per day, and boys and girls under age get from 9*d.* to 3*d.*, according to age and ability, for doing light work. In some cases a strong athletic labourer will earn from 2*s.* to 4*s.* per day for task work. The spell hands on sugar estates, during crop, get from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per day.

If the figures of Dr. Underhill be correct, showing a superabundance of labourers too numerous for the work to be done, then I say that the time is come when Jamaica ought to have a rest for many years from the enormous annual expense of immigration, and thereby effect a saving of the revenue of the country to assist in the reduction of taxes now so heavily borne by the people.

I think that Dr. Underhill is misinformed when he says that "I shall say nothing of the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature" (and yet he says a great deal), "of their unjust taxation of the "coloured population, of their refusal of just tribunals, of their denial of political rights to the eman-"cipated negroes."

This is wrong; I am not aware that there are two codes of laws for the government of the inhabitants, one for whites and one for coloured; all have the same opportunity under the existing laws of the country, by education and good conduct, to advance themselves to political equality.

I agree to Dr. Underhill's second and third suggestions, but to the first I demur; and I think that unless Dr. Underhill can show any flagrant act of misgovernment on the part of our Legislature which may call for a searching inquiry into the legislation of the Island since emancipation, his suggestion will tend to disturb that harmony so happily now existing between this Island and the parent Government, and give rise to a long and painful controversy in which the trite question of chartered rights will form the fruit.

Unhappily we are now suffering the painful effects of a long and severe drought,—so severe that the labourers provision grounds have failed considerably to give them support. They are to be found in great numbers going and coming from parish to parish seeking work, and cannot advantageously procure the same. This fluctuation of labour arises from the effects of the dry weather, as they cannot profitably cultivate their own grounds, and will reduce them to want unknown to former years, and which will be also severely felt the coming year. That this state of the sufferings of the people must drive our House of Assembly at its next sitting to devise means for a considerable reduction of taxes, else I am fearful that all that Dr. Underhill has said in regard to the poverty-stricken condition of the labouring population will come to pass, and will drag in its train of suffering all other interests.

In conclusion I am sorry to observe that it is to be regretted that a number of the labouring classes are not zealous for the education of their children.

We have four public schools in this parish supported by the vestry, and yet the parents of children will not send them to school. Their attendance has been reduced to one half the number of former years.

Something must be done to improve the rising generation, for it is unto them that we must look to effect a salutary reformation of the evils that now exist.

(Signed) P. Harrison,
Senior Resident Magistrate for the
Parish of St. Dorothy.

Mr. Thorburn's Remarks on Dr. Underhill's Letter.

St. John's, Jamaica, March 23, 1865.

Dr. Underhill's idea of the labouring classes of Jamaica I think is wrong. They, as a body, possess far greater advantages than any peasantry in the world. This parish contains nearly 10,000 inhabitants, of whom not more than 50 are whites and browns. This latter can be classed as "whites."

Four estates are in cultivation, making 700 hogsheads among them annually, six having been abandoned since freedom, and all the coffee plantations. All the coffee now produced in the parish is grown by the lately emancipated class, who have purchased large tracts of land wherever they could be obtained, at a rate varying from 1*l.* to 3*l.* per acre; the most of them, however, preferring to rent from 10*s.* to 30*s.* per acre, as in the latter case they pay rent for one acre and cultivate three or six, and in many cases have sub-tenants under them. Whenever the people work on sugar estates, for ordinary field work they get 1*s.* per day for a task which they can perform in four or five hours, and they can never be prevailed upon to do more than the one task. In crop-time, which lasts five months, those employed in grinding, boiling, and cutting canes receive 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*, as those operations involve the necessity of extra hours; and yet at these rates the people seldom work regularly, for during the provision-planting season, which lasts from January to May, which is also the time of the sugar crop, scarcity of labour is too frequently felt. However they are not to be blamed for this, as the chief condition of a freeman is to do his own work first, and then to work for others; but I must say that during this period they lose a great deal of valuable time, for in the days of slavery they were only allowed the half of every Saturday to cultivate their grounds, and yet provisions in those days were more abundant and much cheaper than they are now and ever have been since freedom. I believe, and know it to be a fact, too melancholy to record, that the exertions of the most industrious ones are too often paralyzed by the lazy and indolent, and I regret to say in most cases by those that have been born since freedom, in robbing and destroying their provisons before they have matured, and hence I have frequently heard them say that "If I catch them in my field I'll shoot them." That some day this threat will be carried into execution nobody will deny, and I believe a person was tried and acquitted in the parish of St. Mary, for shooting and killing another whom he caught robbing his ground, and I have repeatedly heard the intelligent people who sit as jurors at the criminal courts say that they will never find a person guilty for shooting another for robbing provision fields. This is a deplorable state of things, as it is evident that the rising generation has not, and is not, profiting from the numerous schools that have been erected since freedom. Consequently the annual legislative grants for educational purposes have been thrown away. My varied experience connected with the Island extends over a period of 55 years, and I must confess that the most orderly, well-behaved, industrious, and well-to-do people are to be found among the old slaves, who are now fast dying out, and are being replaced by a set of lawless thieves and lazy vagabonds, as the records of the clerk of the peace's office will show. The convictions in the magistrates' courts being generally a pecuniary fine, which is paid in preference to the alternative sentence of being sent to the penitentiary, except by the most worthless, who are better fed than when at home (if they have one), does away with the notion of want existing among the people. The churches and chapels, market days and court days, exhibit on such occasions large numbers of the people congregated together dressed in very expensive fineries; so much so that in many cases it is to be feared they have not been obtained by honest means. Distress among the peasantry of Jamaica is out of the question. Whenever they want a few shillings to pay their taxes or buy clothing,—the former is 11*s.* a head on a riding horse or mule, and 1*d.* per acre on land,—they have only to go to the nearest estate for three weeks consecutively, and they can get 15*s.* for 15 days' labour, as they only work five and in a great many instances only four days per week. There is great distress, and, I fear, destitution, among the better classes, such as the whites and the respectable coloured people who owned slaves in former days, for their compensation money being long since exhausted, and not being able to labour, and no suitable work offering, they are put to great shifts for a living.

It is perfectly true the expenses of living have been considerably enhanced within the last 10 or 15 years, most of the necessaries of life having advanced in price 50 to 100 per cent., partly from additional duties imposed by the Legislature to meet the increased expenditure of wholesome institutions consequent on freedom, and partly from the Americans and Canadians finding a better market for their produce in other parts of the world, where money is more abundant. In fact living has now attained its full height. That extra taxation is out of the question; it is already too high for the diminished resources of the Island, and the day is not far distant when the Legislature will have to apply the pruning knife in abolishing such offices as may be dispensed with, and reducing the salaries of others, for the amount derived from the imports, which yield the largest revenue, are indicating a falling off. As regards sugar making among the people, I do not think it pays them; but as they do not calculate upon the time or labour of their family, by whom all the operations are carried on, it seems to me it would be injudicious to discourage them in its continuance, particularly as they do not appear to like the cultivation of cotton; and of tobacco they do not understand the curing. The Island abounds in resources, all within their reach, which might be produced in their recreation hours. I mean articles that require manipulations indoor, such as peeling ginger, hand-picking cotton, twisting tobacco, which can be all done at nights. The people are too fond of sugar and rum to discontinue their making.

I am not aware the people have any disadvantage that the estates have not; they are all on the same footing; the same markets, means of conveyance, advantages of shipping, &c., are equally open to all.

A great deal is said about the drought having made the fields of the people unproductive. This is true enough; but if they would fall down new land, as they used to do formerly, these complaints would cease, and the Island would have plenty of provisions. The foregoing agrees with the views of gentlemen who have known the parish for the last 30 years and upwards.

(Signed) Adam W. Thorburn,
Senior Resident Magistrate, St. John's.

From the SUPERINTENDENT of the Wesleyan Methodist Association to Mr AUSTIN.

Mount Regale, April 6, 1865.

To the circular letter of his Excellency the Governor of the 13th ultimo, having reference to the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, touching the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent amongst the coloured population, I beg to send the following reply:

There has been a variation in the ordinary rates of wages for a day's work, in our districts, during the last few years, from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* per day. One shilling is now the ordinary rate for a day's work for able-bodied men and women, and 6*d.* for children.

Ground provision during the late droughts was scarce and dear, threatening a famine, but which was averted by the timely supply of flour and rice from America. At present, ground provision is not so scarce, nor high.

Work is less easily obtained and less remunerated than in former years, on account of numbers of estates having been thrown out of cultivation, and converted into pens; and some abandoned! The estates now in cultivation have limited the same, because of the low price of sugar, and the risk in extending their cultivation, which at present yields so little profit. In consequence of this the peasantry generally are less well off, and the little they get for labour is inadequate to their absolute and necessary wants, and which wants are increased by the late high prices they have to pay for salt provision and for cotton goods, including osnaburgh, and which are very inferior in quality. From these causes they cannot, in general, be as well off, nor can they appear as decently clad as heretofore; nay, some have not decent clothing for themselves and children to attend church and school.

In regard to the causes of distress which do exist, affecting not only the lately emancipated people but also almost every class in the Colony, the principal of these causes is the equalization of the sugar duties, from which a train of other causes have followed, viz.:—

1st. Failure in competing in the markets of the world with slave-grown produce.

2d. Dismantling and finally abandoning great numbers of sugar estates and coffee plantations, and thereby throwing their labourers out of employment.

3d. The estates now in cultivation are kept up under much reduced rates of payment, from the manager to the common watchman, so as to maintain their existence, and on some estates the pay is kept back and shortened on pay-day.

4th. Our heavy and unequally levied taxation is quite above our resources, and therefore is burthensome, especially to the labouring class.

But under all these adverse causes, and their natural effects, no one can fairly add to them "the great increase of the crime of larceny!" My opinion, which is not singular, is that in Jamaica none but the avowedly idle and vicious can suffer from want so intensely as to be tempted to steal.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE SANGUINETTI.

Police Magistrate of Kingston's Report for 1864.

Accompanying my return of cases summarily determined in Kingston during the quarter ending December 1864 is another return showing the number of summary trials during the year 1864.

They amount to 1,438, giving an increase of upwards of 200 over the year 1863.

The number in 1861 was 790.
„ „ 1862 „ 1,045.
„ „ 1863 „ 1,229.
„ „ 1864 „ 1,438.

These numbers are made up of cases of petty theft, disorderly conduct, assault, indecent, threatening, and abusive language in public, vagrancy, and some other offences made punishable under the Towns and Communities Acts.

The number of summary trials for petty theft have also increased from 136 in 1862 to 201 in 1864.

I can add nothing to what I have already said in former reports on the subject of the increase of offences of the above class, nor does it seem to be necessary that I should, for the returns speak for themselves in language sufficiently forcible.

Much has been said about the increasing poverty of the people, to which the admitted increase of crime is said to be attributable. This observation, if true at all, can only be so in regard to the increase of the crime of larceny, but is scarcely sufficient to account for the increasing amount of immorality, lewdness, and depravity shown to exist by the returns of trials for offences other than larceny. These, at least, if the offspring of poverty, are only remotely so, and if poverty at all, it is poverty engendered of idleness.

It may be and I believe is more true of Kingston than elsewhere, that employment is sometimes difficult to be had, and that wages are occasionally low, but even there, I believe, the instances of larceny occasioned by want are rare. And when the difficulty of obtaining good employment is spoken of, it is only fair to add that there is a commensurate difficulty in procuring faithful and honest servants, as proved by the fact that many of the convictions are for larceny committed by servants.

In effect the criminal statistics of Kingston show that the increase of crime is to be attributed, not so much to an increase of poverty, as to an increasing aversion to work.

It would be difficult to convince the most credulous person who should pay a visit to the penitentiary and see the able-bodied convicts, male and female, there, that they had been driven by destitution to the commission of the crimes for which they have been condemned.

(Signed) HENRY J. BICKNELL,
Police Magistrate, Kingston.

Hugh W. Austin,
Government Secretary.

JAMAICA.

SUMMARY of CASES tried in PETTY SESSIONS in KINGSTON during the Quarter ending December 1864.

OFFENCE.	Convicted.		Acquitted.		TOTAL.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Larceny	32	13	9	2	41	15
Embezzlement	2	—	—	—	2	—
Assault	29	8	15	9	44	17
Disorderly conduct	74	47	5	7	79	54
Using abusive and threatening language	10	7	2	2	12	9
Using obscene language	4	3	1	1	5	4
Vagrancy	24	4	9	—	33	4
Juvenile vagrants sent to industrial schools	4	3	—	—	4	3
Indecent exposure of the person	1	—	—	—	1	—
Refusal of duty by seamen	4	—	1	—	5	—
Careless driving	8	—	—	—	8	—
Fraudulent breach of contract	—	1	1	—	1	1
Emptying cesspool into the street	1	—	—	—	1	—
Throwing stones in the street	3	—	—	—	3	—
Trespass	2	—	—	—	2	—
Assaulting and resisting policemen and constables	6	1	—	—	6	1
Cruelty to animals	1	—	2	—	3	—
Malicious damage to property	—	—	—	1	—	1
Discharging fireworks in the street	1	—	1	—	2	—
Total	206	87	46	22	252	109
Total number of summary cases in 1864	713	375	181	169	894	544
" " 1863	619	281	172	157	791	438
" " 1862	507	297	122	119	629	416
" " 1861	360	228	90	112	450	340

(Signed) HENRY J. BICKNALL,
P. M., Kingston.

Petition from LECRUSE SCOTT to Governor EYRE.

Jamaica, Ss.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

The humble petition of Lecruse Scott of the parish of Saint Mary, married woman,

Humbly showeth,

That your petitioner married one Andrew Scott, and are both labourers; that your petitioner and husband have a good character, and reside in Saint Mary for many years, and was never before charge with any offence.

That on the first day of April 1865 your petitioner husband was charge with an assault triable under the Summary Jurisdiction Act, and was on that day tried and convicted in Petty Sessions for the said offence, and was sentenced by the setting Justices to be imprisoned in the St. Mary District Prison, and there kept to hard labour for two months.

That immediately after the sentence was passed petitioner's husband was taken to the said prison, dress in prison dress, and was sent out on the public road to work among fellons. That your petitioner humbly submits to your Excellency that the Act 27 Vict. cap. 32. sec. , under which he was tried, give the Justices the power to inflict a fine, which your petitioner would have paid immediately rather than her husband should be working on the public road as a "fellon," and thus disgrace for ever.

That the impression on your petitioner's mind is that the Justices acted vindictively in pronouncing such a sentence.

That your petitioner has been advised that at the late session of the Legislature a Bill was pass the three branches of the said Legislature, entitled An Act to amend the Act consolidate and amend the law relating to offence against the person, 27 Vict. cap. 32, whereby the Justices was empower to enflict a fine, and in default of payment then to imprisonment.

That your petitioner humbly submitted to your Excellency that for the first offence committed by her husband he should be worked on the public road and among fellons convicted of larceny, &c. &c. is a hard case.

Your petitioner therefore pray that your Excellency will take her case into your serious consideration, and grant her such relief as to your Excellency's wisdom may seem meet, and for which your petitioner will ever pray.

her
(Signed) LECRUSE × SCOTT.
mark

Witness, the same having been first read and explained to her by me,
WM. SILVERA.

Principal Officers of Customs to Mr. AUSTIN.

Jamaica. No. 47.

Sir, Custom House, Kingston, April 15, 1865.

In obedience to the instructions contained in your letter dated 13th April 1865, No. 683, we have the honour to transmit a statement of the importation during the last five years of all the principal articles of consumption imported into this Island.

We have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. FREEMAN, Col.
P. M. BERRY, Cont.

PORT OF KINGSTON, JAMAICA.

A STATEMENT of the herein-mentioned Articles imported in the several Ports in this Island during the Years herein shown, and ended on 30th September each Year.

ARTICLES.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
Flour - barrels	87,241	67,902	102,623	98,066	104,540
Corn meal - „	15,811	7,123	26,286	16,349	18,128
Pork - „	11,248	9,766	14,281	13,377	10,303
Mackerel - „	5,071	10,562	15,836	19,447	20,219
Alewives - „	3,827	4,536	5,473	3,587	3,414
Herrings - „	37,226	34,072	33,074	34,425	38,711
Cod fish - cwts.	104,788	92,664	82,803	81,084	69,548
Rice - lbs.	4,549,643	2,979,612	5,158,486	6,751,247	6,183,713
Tobacco - „	365,796	411,507	318,486	287,678	247,481

(Signed) W. G. FREEMAN, Col.,
P. M. BERRY, Cont.

Custom House, Kingston, Jamaica,
April 15, 1865.

Mr. AUSTIN to Mr. GORDON.

No. 495.

Sir, Gov. Sec. Office, March 22, 1865.

I am directed by the Governor to state that his Excellency would be much obliged if you would inform him, as far as you have any knowledge, whether silver coin has been exported from Jamaica to any extent during each of the last three years, if so, the kind of coin exported, the places to which sent, and the parties or class of persons who exported. His Excellency would be glad also to learn your opinion of the cause of such exportation of coin, and the objects sought to be obtained by it; also whether you consider the present amount of silver coin in the Island, or any particular species of it, insufficient for its ordinary requirements as a circulating medium. His Excellency would also be glad to learn what amount of copper coins you consider there are in circulation, and whether you regard it as practicable or desirable for the interest of the lower classes that copper coins should be brought into more general circulation.

An early answer I am to say will oblige.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. W. AUSTIN, Gov. Sec.

Mr. GORDON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Colonial Bank, Kingston, March 30, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 22d instant.

1st. I cannot say whether any or what amount of British silver has been exported from this Island. If any, the extent cannot be very great, and in my opinion there has never been any cause for it.

2d. The present amount of British silver in this Island is far in excess of its requirements as a circulating medium.

3d. Copper coins do not pass at all in the Island, excepting at the Post Office. I believe the Receiver General lately had a considerable amount. It would be a boon, I think, to the labouring class if the payment of this coin was made a legal and compulsory tender to a certain small amount. Now they cannot buy any thing for a penny. The smallest article sold being for 1½*d.* (the lowest silver coin we have).

Thus a man can buy for 2*d.* (a silver coin), but if he tenders 3*d.* in payment (another silver coin) he cannot effect the purchase, as there is not any change.

At the same time it must be stated that the labouring classes refuse to receive copper coins in payment, and this may be accounted for by the difficulty they have in disposing of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THEOD. GORDON,
Manager, Colonial Bank.

JAMAICA.

MEMORANDUM of EXPENDITURE in 1863–4, and of PROVISION for 1864–5, on the under stated Accounts.

HOSPITALS. PAUPERS. CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.				£	s.	d.
Public Hospital (Kingston), spent in financial year 1863–4				8,069	15	0
Lunatic Asylum, spent in financial year 1863–4				5,086	18	10
Marine Hospital (Falmouth), spent in financial year 1863–4				397	13	3
Pauper relief in the parishes, on estimates 1864–5				19,191	17	0
Medical attendance on poor, " "				4,335	16	0
Almoners, on estimates 1864–5				412	0	0
Rent and repairs of almshouses, on estimates 1864–5				533	10	0
				38,027	10	1
Lepers Home, on account of, for 1864–5				1,000	0	0
For estimated expense of vaccination	£2,000	0	0			
For nine months provision under new vaccination bill	750	0	0			
Balance of grant (1,000*l.*) taken in 1863–4 for care of persons attacked by smallpox	599	18	3			
For care of persons so attacked in the parish of Westmoreland, on 1864–5 parochial estimates	100	0	0	3,449	18	3
Metcalfe Dispensary				150	0	0
Nurse Training Institution				200	0	0
In aid of St. George's Almshouse, Kingston	30	0	0			
In aid of Kingston Parish Church Almshouse	30	0	0			
In aid of original Almshouse	20	0	0			
For purchase of premises for Kingston Almshouse	60	0	0	140	0	0
For Milk River Bath, in addition to 180*l.* under Stat. 24 Geo. 3.				144	0	0
For erection of Matron's House at Milk River Bath				200	0	0
For support of Bath, St. Thomas the Apostle				144	0	0
				43,455	8	4
Reformatories, expended 1863–4	£1530	3	11			
Grant for pay of a master, at the rate per annum	200	0	0			
Grant towards erection of additional buildings	200	0	0			
Grant in aid of repairs of Girls' Reformatory buildings	100	0	0	2,030	3	11
				45,485	12	3
ECCLESIASTICAL.						
Clergy stipends and allowances, on estimates for 1864–5				29,204	6	0
Registrar diocese, for registrations, 1863–4				104	9	0
The Rev. W. Stearn, in consideration, &c.				200	0	0
The Rev. D. R. Fidler " "				150	0	0
The Rev. A. H. Seymour " "				13	7	4
The Rev. A. S. Darrell " "	£80	4	10			
Same	54	11	9	134	16	7
The Rev. W. Hylton, in consideration, &c.				150	0	0
				29,956	18	11
Churches and Parsonages.						
Expended 1863–4 under 25 Vict. c. 16.	£2,504	0	0			
" " 26 Vict. c. 20.	2,010	0	0			
" for Bishop's Lodge	483	10	0			
27 Vict. c. 37.	240	0	0	5,237	10	0
Taken on parochial estimates, 1864–5				2,465	16	0
Grant for additional burial ground in the parish of Westmoreland				50	0	0
Grant for Porus Chapel				208	13	1
" Bath Chapel				264	13	8
" St. Christopher's				200	0	0
Grants to other religious denominations :						
Roman Catholics	£100	0	0			
Scotch Kirk	367	10	0			
Wesleyans	—					
Grateful Hill Chapel	150	0	0	617	10	0
				39,001	1	8

	£	s.	d.
EDUCATIONAL.			
For educational purposes on estimates for 1864–5	3,250	0	0
Additional towards obtaining the service of an inspector of schools	250	0	0
Taken on parochial estimates for educational purposes	1,480	0	0
Endowed schools	4,478	0	0
School houses :			
Spent, 1863–4, under 25 Vict. c. 16. £219 15 0			
Provided on parochial estimates, 1864–5 116 5 0	336	0	0
	9,794	0	0
PENITENTIARIES.			
Expenditure, 1863–4	14,664	15	10
PRISONS.			
Expenditure, 1863–4	11,235	8	3
	25,900	4	1
POLICE.			
Expenditure, 1863–4	21,892	10	3
RURAL CONSTABLES.			
Expenditure, 1863–4	630	3	5

SUMMARY.

	£
Hospitals, Paupers, Charitable Institutions, &c.	45,485
Ecclesiastical	39,001
Educational	9,794
Penitentiaries and Prisons	25,900
Police	21,893
Rural Constables	630
	£142,703

Exclusive of Courts of Justice, Magistrates Courts, and Public and Parochial Roads.

The Bishop to Governor EYRE.

My dear Sir, Spanish Town, March 1865.

In his letter to Mr. Cardwell I find that Dr. Underhill declares that "since his visit to this Island in 1859–60," he has "deeply grieved over the sufferings of its coloured population."

In 1862 Dr. Underhill published a work entitled "The West Indies," in which he reports much of Jamaica and of his visit to it, and adds nothing as the result of any information obtained since the date of his visit. There is no indication of any impression on his mind in 1862 that his account of the state of the Island derived from information obtained in 1859–60 required modification.

I have searched in vain through his book for accounts of the "sufferings" of the people "or of any expressions of grief" felt for them.

I find, on the contrary, (in page 270) proofs of "their general well doing," deduced from the rapid sale of saddlery, and a representation that they worked on a certain estate "to oblige" one of the planters.

In page 279, Dr. Underhill describes his addressing a group of labourers, and telling them he was happy to see them so well dressed and prosperous.

In page 317 he represents some of the people as stating that 5*d.* per week was not too much to expect, and the least that should be expected of each member of a Baptist congregation towards the support of their minister. It is just possible that threepence, which the people call "fippence," was meant.

It would follow from this, that, in addition of the taxation as it was in 1859–60, the people would pay more than 100,000*l.* a year for any desired purpose.

I cannot find time to quote at length the statements in pages 403, 404, and 420, &c., made expressly to prove the well-doing of the people.

At the close Dr. Underhill speaks of his "very gratifying visit" to "the Queen of the Antilles," and says that emancipation has brought an amount of happiness, of improvement, of material wealth, and prospective elevation to the enfranchised class in which every lover of man must rejoice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) REGINALD KINGSTON.

JAMAICA.

THREE EXTRACTS from and comments upon Book published by Dr. UNDERHILL.

Dr. Underhill on the People of Jamaica.

No. 1.

On the authority of one whose position and character render his observations worthy of the gravest consideration:—"Generally the people of Jamaica are great deceivers and liars. It might be a "remnant of slavery influences, but it seemed in most cases inherent in their character, almost "a natural peculiarity. Among estates' people especially there are few individuals who, unless under "intimidation, adhere to the truth; and the ministers confess with sorrow and mortification their want "of success in eradicating this evil. A story was told of a negro woman, with a child on her back, "who entered a store. The child quietly took a handful of nails and hid them, on going out she "asked the child what he had taken, and on seeing the nails, said laughingly, "What! him 'teal from "Buckra already?" I said, that the use of Buckra (the white man) by the woman seemed to indi- "cate that the old notion so prevalent among the slaves, that Buckra was fair game, was the origin "of this want of honesty. To this assent was given; and, after all, these propensities may have "sprung up from that source, for he had twelve pure Africans, immigrants, now on the estate, who had "never been slaves, and they never tell a lie. Offences against the law consist chiefly of petty "larcenies; graver crimes are few. The actual number of criminals is not large. The same indi- "viduals appear before the magistrates again and again. There is a great disregard for the sanctity "of an oath in the courts of law, and perjury is frequent and manifest. The poor, the widows, and "the aged are often worse off than in the times of slavery. Then they were secure of some sort of "support on the estates. Now, if they have no relations to care for them, they become wretchedly "poor and miserable. The negro is generally far from being kind and charitable to his own "race."

No. 2.

At a gathering in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, Mr. Underhill met a large number of the residents of the mountains. But few of these, he said, worked on sugar estates. He selected two men from the lot, "who were particularly intelligent in their remarks; they had not worked on an estate for many "years. They grew coffee for sale, and made sugar enough for their own use; they ate bread every "day, also salt fish and herrings; and sometimes more than once a week they had fresh beef. Pro- "visions, they said, were dear, but clothing was cheap. The soil of Jamaica, they said, was so rich "that it did not require manure; the deeper it was dug the richer it became. When the soil was "exhausted, they preferred to occupy new ground; after it had been fallow a few years they often "resumed its cultivation, but virgin land was so cheap and abundant in the mountains that it was "more profitable to take it than to manure or clear old lands. They had no idea of keeping a cow; "they had no pasturage for one. Pigs and goats, the latter supplying them with milk, with their "domestic animals. One had eleven children, the other nine; both had had thirteen. They lived "most comfortably, and could afford something for their minister." Mr. Underhill had already remarked, that the major part of the population of the parish resided in the mountains, and cultivated lands there.

On the authority of a gentleman whose "position and character," Mr. Underhill thought, rendered his observations "worthy of the gravest consideration," he mentions that "very many estates in the "district had been thrown up, not on account of the want of capital, for in many instances they "belonged to men of great wealth;" and that "two more would shortly swell the expanse of bush. "They were no longer profitable because the people who cultivated them, when released from bon- "dage, could better themselves, and naturally did so. If any amount of money were brought to bear, "there are not hands to work, much less to reclaim them, unless hired at some enormous sacrifice. "Of fifteen estates in the immediate neighbourhood, four only remained under cultivation, and two of "these four but partially. During slavery they were amply supplied with labour, and carried on to their "utmost limit. The few remaining proprietors, still struggling to survive, have the utmost difficulty in "obtaining labour when desired."

In reference to every part of the Island which Mr. Underhill visited, he made the same remarks as to the dearth of labour for estate purposes, and the independence and thrift of the persons who became small settlers.

What becomes now of Mr. Underhill's statements that the labour market for estates in Jamaica is overstocked, and that the settlers and others are starving? Can it be credited that the industry of the settler has ceased to render him independent, and that numbers in consequence resorting to the labour market have made the supply too great for the demand? Upon no other hypothesis is it possible to reconcile the statements we have quoted from with those now made by Mr. Underhill.

No. 3.

There is besides discoverable in Mr. Underhill's arguments the old leaven of the party to which he belongs. He is not so much concerned in relieving the labouring classes as in depreciating the upper or ruling classes, whom he identifies with the "planters." The whole burthen of his long letter rests on nothing else. Expensive and mad immigration schemes; an unfair distribution of taxation; shifting every charge from the shoulders of the planters to those of the labouring classes; legislation for the exclusive benefit of one class (the planters), without any regard whatever for the rights of the oppressed labourer, are among the charges which he expressly or inferentially urges as the causes that have depressed Jamaica. Mr. Underhill also gives in the same letter the outlines of his plan for an agrarian distribution of the lands of the Island. The large properties are worn out, he thinks, and the planters are tyrants who will continue to sink money in the soil that they may have the sublime satisfaction, in return, of oppressing the poor labourers; therefore the Government must by all means encourage

small settlements, and the cultivation of the exportable minor products. Mr. Underhill does not state all this in express terms; but it is impossible for any one acquainted with the peculiar idiosyncracy of his party to read his letter without drawing these conclusions from what is expressed therein.

Mr. Underhill has written a book about Jamaica. Four or five years ago he visited the Island, at the request of the treasurer and committee of the Baptist Missionary Society, to investigate, as the preface to his book says, "the religious condition of the numerous Baptist churches formed in the Islands of the "West, especially as that condition had been affected by the act of emancipation." Besides accomplishing this primary object, however, Mr. Underhill took advantage of the opportunity to indulge in the failing of most travellers; he took notes and published a book. Let us see what his ideas were at that time (1861) on certain matters which he has referred to in his letter to the Colonial Secretary.

In reference to the decay of cultivation in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, Mr. Underhill said, "careful "and respectable men are not usually willing to work on sugar estates, or to suffer their families to do "so." In another place—"Few will labour on the estates for more than four days in the week, "except in crop time, when they usually give a fifth day; scarcely any will work on a Saturday. "There are, in fact, more than sufficient labourers, at least in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, for the extent "of sugar cultivation now carried on, and the abundance reduces the rate of wages; on the other hand, "their labour is uncertain, is not always available at the time when it is most required, and is limited "by their habits, special occupations, and partial wants." In another place—"The best organization "of labour for the planter is, undoubtedly, that by which it can be secured with regularity as well as "cheapness; but this will only take place where the labourer depends on the wages he can earn. The "universal possession of provision grounds prevents this, and so great is the desire to obtain land that "a regular supply of labour can only now be secured either through an artificial scarcity of land, or "by a very large increase of population. To the question whether, if sufficient wages were given to "cover both the present wages and the value of the produce of provision grounds, they would give up "their small holdings, I received but one reply from the people:—No!"

It is in the face of the knowledge of facts such as these that Mr. Underhill denies the necessity for immigration, and wishes small settlements to be encouraged. What does he ask for but the annihilation of the planter?

Mr. Underhill's book is full of statements like those quoted above.

Archdeacon Rowe to Governor Eyre.

ANSWERS by Archdeacon Rowe to questions from his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica respecting certain statements made by Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State in regard to the condition of the labouring population.

In a country which enjoys the finest of all tropical climates, where the natives are not obliged to make any provision of food or clothing against the inclemency of winter, nor subjected to lengthened droughts and desolating monsoons, where an acre of land can be purchased at a price varying from twenty shillings to four pounds, the produce of which is either saleable as food in the Island, or profitably to be disposed of in any of the markets of Europe when it consists of coffee, sugar, ginger, or tobacco; in a country where there are two springs, two summers, and two crops of corn, it is impossible that the peasantry, as far as regards their worldly condition, can be anything but prosperous and happy. And that this is the general condition of the labouring classes of Jamaica is testified by facts that cannot be disputed.

With regard to the productiveness of the land, and the means of comfortable subsistence thereby afforded to all industrious persons, what further evidence can be required than the well-known circumstance that during the hateful system of slavery not only was one day in a fortnight found sufficient for the cultivation of the provision grounds, but that shortly after the emancipation the Baptist congregations contributed so largely to the support of their missionaries that the Jamaica mission declined to receive any further assistance from the parent society in England. And no impartial person can possibly bring himself to believe that these peasantry, after having become to a very great extent freeholders of land and masters of their own time, are poorer now than after they had been only lately emancipated; especially if he has taken the trouble to inspect the records of the different parochial vestries, for the purpose of ascertaining the number of brood mares in possession of the peasantry (taxed at sixpence each), and the quantity of land owned by them (and taxed at one penny an acre), and if he has further calculated how large a proportion of the coffee only exported from Jamaica is the growth of these smaller settlements.

During a residence of twenty-two years in Jamaica, my experience has been uniform, and my opinion has never varied. I look on the peasantry of this Island as better off and in the possession of greater advantages than any I am acquainted with. They are also in general well conducted, contented, kind to each other, and industrious. I believe them to be intellectually on a level with European nations, and that in course of time, and by proper training and religious instruction, their progress in morals and civilization will be great. At the same time I am bound to state that from various causes the efforts made to promote their social improvement have not been successful, as regards any of the religious denominations. Large congregations have, it is true, been collected, for the people are fond of attending public worship; but the preaching of the clergy and of the missionaries has been to a great degree ineffectual, from its not being accompanied by religious instruction adapted to the capacities of a newly emancipated people. And the schools that have been established for the education of the younger part of the community have been so miserably defective in all their arrangements, that evil, and not good, has been too often the result of the course of training pursued in them; which should not be a matter of surprise, when it is considered that with the exception of a little assistance from Government within the last few years, education has been left to the good feeling of the people, in the futile expectation that an uninstructed and only partially civilized people will themselves see the necessity and feel the obligation of providing for the education of their own children. The consequence of all which is that the schools are badly conducted, the schoolmasters inefficient and underpaid,

JAMAICA.

and too often quite unworthy of the trust committed to them. The boys and girls are herded together in one school, to which they travel miles together in company, without any superintendence; the girls have no female teachers, with the exception of very few schools; and the young people learn far more evil from such a system of neglect than can be counterbalanced by the attainment of the poor instruction which the schools afford. Added to which, there is a total want of all home discipline in the families of those who, having been slaves themselves, never learnt how to bring up their children properly, but allow them to follow their own vicious inclinations without placing any restraint on their conduct.

A generation of young persons having grown to maturity under such circumstances, and being undeterred from the commission of crime by the lightness both of prison discipline and of the check placed by the existing laws on the crimes to which they are peculiarly prone, it is not to be wondered at that there are in many districts of the Island a number of idle and dissolute young men who are the pest of society, and the bane of all progress and improvement, and I am fully persuaded that any partial distress which exists at the present time is chiefly occasioned by their lawless conduct. A gentleman in this neighbourhood who was letting out fifty acres of land in provision grounds has received notice from his tenants that they must give up the land, as everything they plant is either stolen or wantonly destroyed; and that this cannot proceed from the want of remunerative labour is evident from the fact of there being many estates in cultivation in the same district, on two of which, that do not together make more than 450 hogsheads in the best years, the proprietor pays in wages alone 4,500*l.*

The increased prevalence of sorcery or "obeah," which are only other names for secret poisoning, is a sad drawback to the happiness of the people, as it causes them to live in continual dread of injury, wickedly-disposed persons hiring pretenders to the evil art to work vengeance on all who oppose them. This, together with the larceny and destruction of growing crops, and some disgraceful crimes which need not be mentioned here, are offences which, if not immediately and effectually checked by proper legal enactments, must exercise a most depressing influence on the happiness and moral welfare of the people.

The only other cause I can think of (besides the low price of sugar) as productive of a little hardship at the present time, is the high price of cotton, and this, perhaps, is felt more by the people of Jamaica, as their clothing consists chiefly of that material. But as dress in this climate is more for appearance' sake than for warmth, the peasantry must be content for a while to appear in less becoming apparel than they in general like to wear.

If, then, I am asked how to account for the statements made in Dr. Underhill's letter to the Secretary of State, I would answer, that without wishing to question the sincerity of those persons from whom he derived his information, I do not consider the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica to be in a position to make from their own knowledge a report applicable to the condition of the whole Island.

1. Because the Baptist congregations are located only in certain portions of Jamaica, chiefly on the north side in the neighbourhood of the sugar estates.

2. Because there are not more than about twelve European Baptist missionaries left in Jamaica.

3. Because it cannot be expected that those who, on principle, have so strongly advocated the voluntary system, should be easily persuaded to attribute the failure of the funds on which they have hitherto depended to a cause which, if true, involves the impracticability of a favourite theory.

During the earlier years of the emancipation the peasantry, acting under the belief that their freedom had been obtained for them by the missionaries, manifested their gratitude by contributing largely to their support. Freedom and religion appeared to them to go hand in hand, and they considered themselves bound to behave liberally towards those who had stood forth on their behalf. The missionaries also undertook to plead the cause of the labourers on the estates as regards the amount of wages, and the people leant on their support, and regarded them as their defenders. But this first fervour began after a time to subside; a reaction commenced, and has been gradually going on ever since, even among those who were themselves formerly slaves; whilst a new generation has grown to maturity who never knew anything at all of slavery, and who have never felt themselves bound by the fore-mentioned ties of gratitude to their religious instructors. Added to which, in proportion as the people left the sugar estates, and acquired independent freeholds, they ceased to require the advocacy of the missionaries in their temporal concerns.

The consequence of these changes of feeling and alterations of position among the labouring classes in connexion with the Baptist denomination is that the aid now given in support of the voluntary principle is next to nothing compared to what it used to be. And as missionaries, however pious and devoted, cannot come from England to subject their wives and families to the risk of starvation, the result is that the congregations are gradually passing into the hands of natives of the country, whose influence over the people, with few exceptions, is incomparably less than that of their predecessors, and I am persuaded that in course of time the people will cease entirely to contribute to the maintenance of their ministers, or give so little as to be insufficient for the maintenance of any teacher or minister.

The Baptists feel the change the more severely because they alone have depended entirely on the voluntary system, all the other religious bodies deriving their maintenance from societies in England, although they raise contributions for missionary purposes, which are remitted to the parent societies.

Violently as some of our fellow Christians among the Baptists are opposed to the Church of England, I exceedingly regret, for the sake of the people, that inducements for pious and zealous missionaries to come from England no longer exist, as a sad retrograde movement must ensue in certain districts of the Island. For although I by no means wish to disparage the character of the native missionary, it is undeniable that his educational advantages have been less, that his claims on the sympathy of the people are quite different, and that his missionary zeal is not likely to be of the same order, for the very reason, that whilst the missionary from England must make certain sacrifices and incur certain risks on leaving home, the native pastor attains by his very admission to the ministry a rank and position that it would have been very difficult for him to attain to by any other means.

The ministers of the Baptist persuasion being naturally unwilling to believe in the changed disposition of the labouring classes, and averse to the idea that they are placing a lighter value on religious ordinances than heretofore, are, I fear, mistaking the backwardness of the people to maintain churches on

the voluntary principle for their inability to do so. But a knowledge of mankind should convince us all that a just appreciation of their duty to God, to themselves, and to their families is not to be expected from a people who, instead of having enjoyed for ages the light of civilization and the advantages of religious instruction, are just emerging from the darkness of barbarism and slavery. In what other country indeed, except Scotland, where the people are bound together and to their faith by powerful traditional influences founded on former historical events, such as religious persecutions and sufferings for conscience sake, has the voluntary system been found to answer so as to meet the wants of the masses of the community?

The Baptist congregations consist in a great measure of labourers on the sugar estates, and the prosperity of this class must rise and fall with that of the planter, who is unable when sugar is selling at a low rate to give the same amount of wages. And in cases where sugar estates are suddenly abandoned, there will always be a certain amount of distress which necessarily lasts till the former labourers have forced themselves to seek new settlements and freeholds of their own. But when the proprietor and his family are driven from a state of affluence to seek a living by methods to which they have been wholly unaccustomed, and are obliged to go through hardships which too often end in sickness and sorrow, it is hardly in accordance with Christian charity to concentrate all our pity on those who have merely to change from one sphere of labour to another, and whose grievances, light as they are, can be remedied by a little industry and exertion.

The English agriculturist would be amazed at the abundant resources which are within reach of the Jamaica labourer. Instead of depending on the uncertain potato, the West Indian peasantry have the advantage of numerous products superior in their nutritive qualities, and to be enjoyed in continual succession. Yams, cocos, sweet potatoes, cassava, and plantains are the general food of the people, to which are to be added, in a secondary list, as partaking partly of the nature of fruits, the bread fruit, the banana, and the great avocado pear, together with an abundant supply of mangoes, oranges, &c. in their season, and beans and peas of various kinds throughout the year, not omitting the large grained corn or maize which may be roasted or boiled on the stick, and after it is fully ripe can be ground and made into cakes. A general scarcity over the whole Island is a thing I have never known. Excellent beef and pork are sold everywhere at sixpence the pound. The people can grow their own coffee and sugar, or get it in exchange from others. The very oil they burn in their lamps is from a plant that is to be seen in every garden, and many little things which the Englishman can only obtain with money are at the command of every industrious person. The cottages of the labourers in such a climate can be erected at a very small cost, and except in the towns fuel costs nothing. All may live in the greatest comfort and abundance, without being obliged to buy one single article of food on which a tax of any sort is raised.

In hiring servants, the upper classes seldom ask for any character, for the people are so independent that it is a mere matter of choice with them to be domestic servants or to labour in the field or on the family freehold.

It has indeed often struck me how favourably the condition of the Jamaica peasantry contrasts with that of the Barbadian labourers, who have no freeholds to retire to, but are tenants at will, depending entirely on the successful cultivation of sugar by their masters, performing, by all accounts, double the amount of labour at the same rate, having but few of the comforts above mentioned, and nothing to look forward to but starvation or emigration in case of the failure of the Colony.

It is not safe to judge from representations which, though made in sincerity, may be founded on fancy or prejudice, and are frequently influenced by the unconscious power of motives that have their sources from other directions. Only a few weeks since I was visiting the station of a very excellent clergyman of the Church of England, whose warmth of heart makes him always forward to undertake the cause of the weaker party, and he was speaking with some feeling of the depressed state of his district, which certainly is one of those that are feeling the times a little, being entirely a sugar district; but the conversation afterwards turning to other subjects of interest, he mentioned with great satisfaction that the offertory in his church, the congregation of which is purely agricultural, amounted in the year to about 100*l.*, and that the savings bank he had been the means of establishing was in a very flourishing condition.

With regard to the discouragement of the small sugar settlements which Dr. Underhill recommends, it is a matter of great satisfaction to me in the course of my travels, when I see the progress of the people exhibiting itself by such instances of enterprise and industry, and by the expenditure of a capital which betokens increasing prosperity. It is a pleasing sign that a class of men will gradually arise, independent in spirit and respectable in conduct. And I know not how their sugar planting could be interfered with but by laying a tax of equal amount on all cane mills, large and small, an act which would be contrary in its spirit to the laws of a free country, and oppressive in its effects.

In my reply to questions of a similar nature sent round to the clergy by the Bishop of Kingston, and which reached me during my visitation of the western districts, I said that I considered the taxes of the country low; but now that I am writing more at leisure I beg to say that I wish this to be considered in reference to the bearing of the taxes on the well-being of the peasantry, regarding whose condition the inquiry was then being made. On the middle and higher classes the taxes weigh heavily. It seems hard in a climate where no European family can preserve health or attend Divine service without the assistance of horses and carriage, and where business requires the use of these to a far greater extent than in England, that every wheel should be taxed at 15*s.* and every horse at 11*s.* And as I have been invited to express an opinion on subjects with which I do not in general attempt to interfere, I would ask whether the enormous amount expended on the roads and public works of the Island does not indicate that we are punishing ourselves to an undue extent? Whether it is expedient to carry out in the present depressed state of the Colony works involving an expenditure which was never ventured on in the most prosperous days of Jamaica? Whether (in order to carry out these projects), after taxing highly those articles of consumption which have become absolute requisites of life to persons brought up in England, it was not an over hard measure to lay an additional tax of

12 per cent. on the incomes of the clergy, reducing them to the lowest point, and compelling men on whom the future well-being of the country so much depends to labour under unnecessary privations?

WILLIAM ROWE, M.A.,
Archdeacon of Cornwall.

P.S.—The following sentence is appended as being omitted in the duplicate copy on page 11.

"I would much rather see the revenue largely increased by the laying of a heavy duty on the rum "consumed in the country, which is of vast amount, injurious to the temporal and spiritual interests "of the people, and the destruction of Europeans, whether soldiers, sailors, or planters."

The Rev. J. K. HEPBURN to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Montego Bay, April 21, 1865.

Observing by the newspapers that a circular letter has been issued to the ministers of religion throughout the Island, with a view to eliciting their opinion as to the alleged distress and destitution amongst the lower class of the population, I beg most respectfully to offer to his Excellency my humble quota of information on the subject, though I must necessarily do so in general terms, as in consequence of not having been favoured with a copy of the circular, and therefore in ignorance as to the queries propounded therein, I am unable to enter into any details.

I beg to assure his Excellency then that there can be no gainsaying the fact that there exists among the bulk of the population of this portion of the Island—I speak of the north side, so far as my personal observation extends—a deep and wide-spread amount of poverty and destitution, which has for some years past been steadily increasing; a destitution not confined to the lower class, but extending too to the classes above them.

I beg to state for his Excellency's information that in the interior of the country districts of this parish, and in those localities where estates formerly in cultivation have been thrown up, this destitution especially exists, and to such an extent that the peasantry are in an abject state of poverty, not knowing for the most part animal food for weeks together, and subsisting in many instances on fruit and herbs; and the state of moral degradation and semi-barbarism into which the people in the interior districts are sunk is deplorable to contemplate.

But, as I before stated, this destitution is not confined to the lower class, but extends itself to and is I believe much more severely felt by the classes removed above them, particularly in towns, and especially among the female portion of them; persons who not long since enjoyed competence, and are now reduced to the most pinching poverty. Dependant on the plying of their needles for sustenance, that resource having failed them, they are without the means of earning their daily bread; and as they cannot be "hewers of wood or carriers of water," it is not to be wondered at that they feel this destitution more than the classes below them.

To none is this destitution more patent than to the clergy, who, in the discharge of their pastoral duties, are called upon to visit amongst this class in periods of sickness and affliction, and it is painful to observe how a class of persons, who a few years since would have scorned the idea of receiving eleemosynary aid, now greedily seek and thankfully accept parochial relief, even out of sickness. And this poverty at once proclaims itself on entering their abodes, which, in the majority of instances, are scarcely habitable, and in many cases destitute of any comforts. I beg to reiterate, then, that I believe the alleged destitution exists more extensively amongst this class, as it must be felt more keenly by them, though there is no denying that the condition of the peasantry of these parts is in its degree trying and painful enough.

In conclusion, I beg to state that I shall be most happy to afford his Excellency any further information that I may be able, should this communication be deemed of any value.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. K. HEPBURN,
Island Curate, Trinity Chapel, St. James's.

The Right Rev. J. E. A. DUPEYRON to Mr. AUSTIN.

My dear Sir, Kingston, April 20, 1865.

Your letter of the 13th ultimo to the Reverend J. Dupont was handed to me some time after my return to Jamaica. The reason why I have deferred so long to answer it is, because it would be difficult to give the information required by his Excellency the Governor for fact as regards myself. Besides that I have been absent from the Island for nearly a year, I have ceased travelling throughout the country since the end of 1861, and therefore I could not speak, except from hearsay, of many of the topics to which the questions in your letter relate. As to my clergy, one only, the Rev. Mr. Wollett, who has replaced me in the usual visits to the Roman Catholics scattered throughout Jamaica, would be able to give an opinion on a few points. However, as I am convinced that you have had from other quarters all that is required fully to satisfy the request of the Right Honourable the Secretary for the Colonies, I shall confine myself to one single point, on which all of my clergy agree, and that is that the so-called revivals have very materially contributed to create or increase habits of idleness among the young population of the Island. We have very little doubt, if any, that to those habits is chiefly to be traced the great increase of cases of larceny of provisions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. E. DUPEYRON,
Vicar Apostolic.

The Rev. Mr. MILLARD to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, St. Ann's Bay, April 21, 1865.

May I request you to inform his Excellency the Governor that I hope to send to him the reply from "The Jamaica Baptist Union" to his Excellency's circular of March 13th, covering a Despatch from the Colonial Minister on Dr. Underhill's letter, in time for the packet which will sail May 11th.

We fully purposed to forward it by this day's post, but are unable to have all the documents and their duplicates ready to transmit. We regret there should be any delay; a circumstance, however, which would not have occurred had his Excellency been able to favour us with the communication on an earlier day in the month, before "The Jamaica Baptist Union" had closed its annual sittings.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJAMIN MILLARD,
Secretary of the "Jamaica Baptist Union."

The Rev. J. R. RADCLIFFE to Captain HUNT, Governor's Secretary.

Sir, Kingston, April 23, 1865.

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of the circular of his Excellency the Governor, in reference to the statements contained in the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and I shall try to state, in as brief and in as conscientious a way as I can, "my opinion as to how far the remarks in Dr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring classes, &c." In doing so I wish to state, first, that being a clergyman in the city of Kingston, my observation and conclusions may, unconsciously to myself, be too local; and, secondly, that there is great difficulty, and, as a consequence, there should be great caution, in forming and expressing opinions on a subject such as the one under consideration, from the fact that the circumstances of one locality often differ so much from those of another. At all events, whether correct or not, I may state that the convictions which I express have been and are growing stronger in proportion to the extent of my experience and observation.

The pith of Dr. Underhill's letter is, as expressed in the following language, that "multitudes are suffering from want, little short of starvation;" and the causes he assigns are, first, want of employment; second, want of capital.

I.—As to the first cause, want of employment, it is submitted that the representation is incorrect, and that for several reasons.

1. At the moment I write, the General Penitentiary contains between five and six hundred criminals, the greater part of whom, both men and women, are strong, young, able-bodied people, who have been committed for larceny, and who will not work. I would be bold to say that there is not one of these who has not been offered work, nay, who has not been asked to work. The discipline of the penitentiary, which is pitched to a state of moral feeling higher than it unfortunately exists here, produces little dread to the inmates; so that, what with the utter absence of all shame at being in the penitentiary, together with the non-severity of its discipline, lazy persons have no fear of entering it, or of again doing crimes which they know are likely to cause re-committal. The general cry is, that the lash alone will have the proper effect.

2. Servants have no hesitation whatever in giving up their situation, because they know they will have no difficulty in procuring another. They often say and do saucy things, as they have admitted, in order to be discharged. This does not argue want of employment.

3. Mechanics, as a rule, will not work by the day. If they do, they do almost nothing. If they work by the job, they insist on an advance of money, and then finish the job how and when they choose, and sometimes not at all. Of course, as in the case of servants, there are exceptions; but the general state of things is that the employer is the servant in Jamaica. Contractors complain that all profits are lost to them by the laziness of the workmen.

4. Many an estate in Jamaica, on many an occasion, would have lost its crop for want of people to work, had it not been for the coolies. There was employment, but it would not be accepted by the negro labourer.

5. The constant cry for immigration, and the willingness of the planters to tax themselves for that purpose, and submit to the grievous and unreasonable obstructions of the British Government as to the introduction of immigrants, is a proof that there is no want of employment.

In truth there is not a candid and intelligent man in Jamaica who would endorse Dr. Underhill's assertion as to the want of employment; nay, it may be stated, without fear of contradiction, that there is not a labourer in Jamaica who cannot get employment if he wish.

But if there be, as is maintained, no want of employment, it may be fairly asked, whence arises the distress of which Dr. Underhill speaks? In reply, it may at once be admitted there is a vast amount of distress among a quiet and respectable class of persons, whose circumstances have been directly or indirectly affected by the sad depreciation of property in consequence of British legislation. With this class we have nothing to do in this inquiry; for the examination is about the "labouring classes." With regard to these it may at once and with boldness be stated, first, that there is no distress among any who will work, all such being very comfortable; and, secondly, that if there be any distress on the part of any of the "labouring population," it is altogether their own fault. This is uttered with the greatest deliberation. This too will be evident from the statement of the following causes of distress:—

1. The indolence of the Jamaica labourer generally. At the utmost, he only works four days in the week. For weeks he does nothing during the Christmas time. I have been told, indeed, that taking the number of labourers in Jamaica, and the aggregate of labour, if the labour be divided according to the number of labourers there would be only about a day and a half of work for each man. That is, the Jamaica labourer works only a day and half instead of six. It is true the wages is only a shilling a-day; but if he work by the job he can easily earn half a crown and more. His indolence is the cause, or one cause of his distress, if he be in distress.

2. The revivals have produced a great scarcity of provisions. For nearly two years this strange movement has been among the peasantry and labourers. Labour was neglected; estates were very much injured from the operation of these revivals, because the people, under the conviction that they were to live in some way independent of labour, gave up work, and neglected the planting of provisions. I have myself seen them eating grass and climbing trees. Their nights were spent in exhausting excitement, and their days in want of sleep. Many are suffering in consequence of this indolence and delusion; but if so, whose fault is it? The very persons who encouraged them in these scenes are the very people now who are making most ado about distress.

3. The increasing immorality, conjoined with the undisputed indolence of the people, is another cause of distress. There is scarcely a clergyman in the Island but admits it, and who does not feel a heartlessness and hopelessness when he sees the non-improvement, and the immorality witnessed on every side.

4. The demagogues who trade on the credulity of the people, and who disturb their minds with the detail of imaginary wrongs, are also another cause of the want and distress of those who listen to them.

5. The discouragement on the part of the industrious in planting provisions, arising from the danger of their being stolen by the stout and lazy vagabonds, is one of the greatest causes of want and distress.

6. The characteristic want of forethought on the part of the people generally, and especially labourers and servants, is another great cause of distress. The rule is, that no matter what wages the labourer can earn by the day, he will work no longer than what will keep him for the week. High wages is not an inducement to work. Servants, after making a little money, will leave their places till that money is exhausted. Few have any money in savings banks, or can be persuaded to earn money for that purpose; and fewer can be persuaded to subscribe to dispensaries, so as to secure attendance and medicine when they are sick. This want of forethought and corresponding exertion is a sore evil. The peasant has nothing whatever to complain of in the way of legislation.

The truth is that of all the assertions that could be made about the Jamaica peasantry or labourers there is none so utterly inconsistent with the state of things as the one that they are a distressed people. I have always felt that they might be the happiest peasantry in the world. They who do work, and possess their little farms, are truly so; and if others are unlike them, it is totally their own fault. Never was charity more ill directed than towards a class of people who have all the means of comfort within their reach. Any one who sees them as a class dressed on Sunday,—the British labourer who would be told that they often ride on horses to their work,—the man who knows the extraordinary sums they can afford at their weddings and baptisms and on dress, will at once feel that he who makes the statement that they are a distressed and starving people must be either very inaccurate in his observation or have a purpose to serve. Whatever people in England may think of the statement, there is not a man in Jamaica but laughs at it.

II.—The second cause of distress, as assigned by Dr. Underhill, is want of capital. In this he is perfectly correct, both as to the cause and the distress. But neither the one nor the other much affects the labourer. The class who suffer distress are those who, either by inheritance or purchase, have their money sunk in estates, and who now, because of their impossible competition with the slave owner, are unable to get a return for their capital. Britain, by admitting slave-grown sugar on the same terms as free-grown, has simply ruined Jamaica. Hundreds of estates are thrown up, as it is called. Beautiful, in fact magnificent, mansions are fallen to pieces. The machinery, which cost thousands, is sold to the Cuban planter at the price of old metal; and the country is in many places covered with bush where formerly there had been thriving sugar estates. Many a man I have known die of a broken heart in consequence of this state of things. The capital which would otherwise go to Jamaica goes to Cuba. There is therefore a sad want of capital, and there is great distress on the part of proprietors. Let England show her moral abhorrence of slavery by taxing slave-grown sugar, and neither Dr. Underhill nor any one else will long have to complain of want of capital in Jamaica. The simple truth that must be stated is, that Dr. Underhill, and men like him, are the men who impose on the people of Great Britain, and who are instrumental in keeping up that morbid notion about the sufferings of the poor negro. They forget that the white man is also a "man and a brother," and shut their eyes to the amount of "distress" they are entailing on him, by compelling him to compete with the slave owner. I protest against Dr. Underhill's statement as one-sided and inaccurate; against his communication to the Secretary of State, as meddling and needless; and, above all, against his philanthropy and the philanthropy of all like him, who come with hurried visits and foregone conclusions, because it is inexpensive, and cruel. Inexpensive, because it not only costs them nothing in its indulgence, but is instrumental in cheapening sugar; cruel, because, in the first place, it crushes down into impossible competition the British planter, and, in the next place, that in taking slave-grown sugar, because it is cheap, it is giving the greatest extension in the world to the growth of Cuban slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RADCLIFFE,
Member of the Established Church of Scotland.

Mr. SHAW, Inspector of Prisons, to Mr. AUSTIN.

Inspector of Prisons' Office, Kingston,
Sir, April 20, 1865.

In reply to your letter, No. 457, dated 16th March 1865, directing me to report on Dr. Underhill's letter, especially in respect to his statement that theft is committed because the peasantry have no alternative but to steal or starve—

I beg most respectfully to state that I cannot agree with Dr. Underhill on this point.

With a most genial climate, and a soil teeming with richness, with rivers and seas abounding in fish, no man having the power and the will to work can starve. In a country where an acre of land of the most fertile kind, and in the most seasonable districts, can be rented for 10*s.* a year, payable almost

how and when the labourer chooses; or where he can obtain the fee simple of an acre of land for from 20*s.* to 60*s.* an acre, from which peas and beans of various kinds can be gathered within six weeks of the day of planting, sweet potatoes in three months, and many other fruits and vegetables in an equally short time; where, too, there exists a constant demand for all kinds of ground provisions and vegetables at prices that amply remunerate the grower, even if they were half as low again as they are at present. In a country with such advantages as these I do not think it can be said with truth that the peasantry have no alternative but to steal or starve.

If any peasant is guilty of theft, or suffering from starvation, it is because of his innate laziness, and because he has not formed habits of industry.

In my humble opinion the cause of all the misery and crime existing in Jamaica does not arise from want of capital, or unequal laws, or unequal taxation, or from the frequent droughts, but it is the natural result of the want of control and proper example set by the parents of the labouring class over their children ever since freedom.

The present adult peasant population of the Island were brought up without the least control, and few indeed of them, as parents, set anything like a proper example either in industry or morality to their children.

The consequence is that many of them take to theft in preference to labour, and the gaols are filled with young, healthy, able-bodied men, who if they were honest and industrious would have been prosperous.

I have just returned from visiting the prisons of the Island, and as they are situated in every part of it, I have had an opportunity of seeing nearly the whole of it.

It is true that the Island has suffered much from want of rain; the drought has been most severe in some parts, and many have suffered and are suffering from it; but my experience does not show that crime is most rife where the privations arising from this cause are the greatest; on the contrary, it is from the most seasonable districts that the greatest number of prisoners come, thus showing that it is not starvation which has driven them to steal.

There is another cause that makes the crime of larceny appear so heavy in our prison returns, and that is the extreme conservatism of the negro in respect to his own property. He will not suffer the least trespass or liberty to be taken with anything of his; the smallest theft is at once reported to the rural constable, and the accused party brought before the magistrates, who have no alternative but to deal with the case according to law. In illustration of this I may state that there is a boy now in the penitentiary for sixty days for stealing two potatoes from his own brother.

In my recent tour I saw no persons who were not decently dressed, and I was in some of the most out of the way places in the Island. In the Pedro plains, a part of the Island which has suffered more from drought than any other, the inhabitants were all clad decently.

A negro on going to work in his provision ground puts on the most ragged clothes he has, but they are always sufficient for decency; and to judge from the dresses of the men and women on Sundays, and in the towns, one would not infer the existence of poverty, or a rise in the price of cotton.

That applications for parochial relief are numerous I admit, but they are made by old or sick persons, who if their sons and daughters and other relatives had the least degree of proper feeling about them would never have allowed them to be made.

It is true there is much distress in the Island, but not among the labouring class. It is found among the whites and coloured families, composed chiefly of females who once held property, or whose husbands received salaries that enabled them to live respectably, but not to lay up any provision for their families.

Amongst this class you will find abject and extreme misery; "work they cannot; to beg they are ashamed." There is no employ for such females in a community like ours; and they suffer severely from causes over which they have no control.

With the peasant it is far otherwise. He can always find employment (if not on sugar estates) on his rented or purchased land, and that most profitably. Native products have maintained full prices for some years past, and are likely to continue to do so. I mean ginger, coffee, yams, plantains, and corn (maize). Large quantities of these are raised yearly by the small settlers, but ten times the quantity might be raised with common industry, and that without one penny of capital.

To say that the labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done is to my mind so very unfounded a statement that I cannot allow it to pass without notice.

Is sugar cultivation alone the support of the Island? No doubt it is in a great degree, but it is daily becoming less so, and many sugar estates are gradually dropping out of cultivation. However much this is to be deplored, it cannot be expected that merchants and capitalists in England will continue to cultivate properties at a loss, and under many adverse circumstances.

If every sugar estate on the Island were abandoned to-morrow, the labouring classes, if true to themselves,—that is, if they applied themselves to labour like the peasantry of other countries,—could so increase and export minor products that the loss of thirty thousand hogsheads of sugar would scarcely be felt; but as it is not probable that such a change will come over our labouring population immediately, the loss of every hogshead of sugar must be severely felt in the Island.

Dr. Underhill states "that the labouring class who grow produce are very few, and meet with every "kind of discouragement to prosecute a means of support which is as advantageous to the Island as to "themselves."

I never knew an instance of this, and I have had many dealings, during twenty-five years, with the class he mentions. The very reverse is the fact, for the small settlers invariably get a better price for coffee, ginger, and pimento on the spot than the English or American prices current would warrant. This arises from the competition for these articles amongst the merchants. This does not look like "discouragement."

Dr. Underhill states, "he will say nothing of the abortive Immigration Bills; of the unjust taxation "of the coloured population; of their refusal of just tribunals; of the denial of political rights to the "emancipated negro."

I commend his caution, but I cannot commend the policy that prompted him to bring these charges forward in so specious a manner.

He must well know, if he had made the least inquiry, that "the coloured population," as he calls them, are no more unjustly taxed than the uncoloured.

In Jamaica the law makes no distinction as to colour. The question is, not what is a man's colour, but what is his property? and will he pay his taxes? From the way in which Dr. Underhill puts it, one not acquainted with the fact would suppose that an additional tax was imposed on colour! A truly surprising charge in these days.

I do not understand what Dr. Underhill means by "the refusal of just tribunals to the coloured population."

He must have forgotten that as the coloured population form by far the bulk of the community, and the white element is very small, and the "tribunals" are for the most part filled by "people of colour," the uncoloured population have no opportunity of being unjust toward their coloured brethren, and I am sure if they had the power to be unjust they would never exercise it.

There is no "denial of political rights to the emancipated negro." By industry and ability he can always obtain sufficient property to qualify him for their exercise.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. B. SHAW,
Inspector of Prisons.

Mr. SHAW, Inspector of Prisons, to Capt. HUNT, Governor's Secretary.

Sir, Inspector of Prisons' Office, April 20, 1865.

In reference to his Excellency the Governor's minute of the 15th instant, calling upon me to report on certain statements made by Mr. Richard Hill, Stipendiary Magistrate, in a communication to his Excellency relating to prison discipline, and especially on that part of his letter in which Mr. Hill states that the prisoners' clothing is made of a material that will not wash, and the prisoners are overrun with vermin—

I beg leave most respectfully to give the two latter assertions the most unqualified denial.

The prisoners' trowsers are made of a coarse material used in this country for putting coffee in. Their shirts or jackets have been made of a material called binlaps, a kind of coarse osnaburgh, the supply of which has failed lately, and I have been obliged to use a coarse kind of bagging that can also be washed, and is not only washed but boiled every week.

I may here remark that the material now used for clothing prisoners is worn by storemen, and men employed on the wharves in the city. It therefore cannot be considered unfit wear for convicts.

I have within the last six weeks inspected every person and prisoner in the Island. I saw no appearance of vermin on their persons; and I had no complaints from the officers of the prisons, or from the prisoners themselves, that such was the case. I feel sure if there was anything of the sort that I should have heard of it.

As I presume Mr. Hill's statement must refer to the St. Catherine's District Prison, as it is in the town in which he resides, I append a letter from the surgeon and superintendant of the above prison, and also from the surgeon of the General Penitentiary, relating particularly to Mr. Hill's statement that the prisoners are overrun with vermin, and that their clothes cannot be washed.

I must express my surprise that a gentleman in Mr. Hill's position should have thought proper to make assertions that the least inquiry on his part at the prison would have shown him to be perfectly groundless, and which, if well grounded, it would have been his duty as a visiting justice to have reported directly, either to his Excellency or myself.

His statement that he does not know by what authority the prisoners are worked on the roads in shackles is one I am astonished a stipendiary magistrate of thirty years should have made. The 21st Victoria, chapter 14, section 7, gives the power to do so.

No prisoners are worked in chains except at the General Penitentiary, and only those who are employed on the streets of Kingston. It has been considered necessary by the authorities to sanction their being worked in light chains, merely as a security against escape in a crowded city. The chains are so light that they do not impede the convict's motions in working or walking, but would do so if he attempted to run.

There is no law, as Mr. Hill must well know, that permits first-class misdemeanants to be worked in penal gangs or otherwise outside the walls of the prison; second class misdemeanants can alone be worked in this way; and if it has come to Mr. Hill's knowledge that a first-class misdemeanant has been so worked, it was his bounden duty as a magistrate, and particularly as a stipendiary magistrate, to have instantly put a stop to such a gross outrage of the law, and to have reported the case to his Excellency the Governor or to me.

He has done neither; but now brings it in as a general charge against the department over which I have the honour to preside.

The superintendents of prisons know too well the penalties they would be subject to by doing such an illegal act as Mr. Hill has brought against them.

Mr. Hill states that working the prisoners on road labour has made day labour on the highway discreditable to the honest man. What the meaning of this statement is I do not quite comprehend. I know that the cry amongst all classes, from Morant Point to Nigul Bay, is why are so many prisoners kept at the penitentiary? Why are they not distributed over the different parishes? Why are the old parochial gaols not opened, so that our own thieves and vagabonds may repair our roads? These and similar questions I have had put to me by men of all classes, from the wealthy planter to the labourer in his field. This does not look as if there was any objection to prisoners working on the roads in the minds of the public.

I am at a loss to conjecture who the honest men are that Mr. Hill alludes too as considering it discreditable to work on the roads. He surely cannot mean they are the labourers in his own district, who, when the main road of the country was destroyed for some miles by the great flood of last year, refused to repair it unless they got double or treble wages, and who were, I dare say, annoyed to find that Government refused them their extortionate demands, and sent up a gang of convicts from the General Penitentiary, who soon made this road fit for traffic. Neither, I presume, does he allude to the honest men in the mountain district of his own parish, who were asked by a venerable clergyman residing in Spanish Town to repair the roads damaged also by the flood, and refused to do so unless they got wages so far beyond the usual rate that he felt himself compelled to refuse their demands, and had to apply for convicts to do the work.

I have alluded to the above facts because they occurred in Mr. Hill's immediate district, and it is not improbable some of the men may have told him they would not work on the roads, as the convicts did so, omitting to give the real and true state of the case.

Mr. Hill admits it is requisite that people should see that crimes are punished, and then goes on to state that publicity, so far from working a salutary example, becomes mischievous; and says that to him the present prison discipline of the Colony seems "senseless barbarity." That it may do so to his mind I have no intention of disputing, although he has made use of harsh and unwarranted language in denouncing it. It is simply an opinion, strongly and harshly expressed, without a single fact given to show on what that opinion is grounded.

I respectfully submit that before making use of such a strong term as "senseless barbarity" he should have given some fact proving that the present prison discipline was wrong. In place of a fact to show this, he gives a quotation from "Mons. Dupont," which is, in my humble opinion, no way applicable to the present case, as he was writing of European criminals, and the effect upon them, and not of negroes, and the effect of visible punishment on the negroes. I have not as yet discovered that a gang of convicts working on the roads even in light chains has had the effect of turning the current of feeling in the minds of the class (or any class) for whom it is intended to have an effect upon to execration and hatred of the law. I believe that publicity is having a salutary effect on the minds of those most likely to become criminals.

In answer to Mr. Hill generally as regards prison discipline, I would remark, that the Government and I have been guarded in this important work not by the theory of dreaming philanthropists, but by the practical experience of the great authorities on this subject, men high in rank and great might in the Councils of England, who have brought their talents to bear upon prison discipline, as shown in the Report of the Committee of the House of Lords of which Earl Carnarvon was Chairman. It is true we can only follow in this country at a great distance the system as laid down by those great authorities; but it is so good, has the weight of so much talent and experience, that our following it, at however great a distance, and with my humble means (comparatively speaking), must lead to what all so much desire, diminution of crime in the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. B. SHAW.

Sir, Saint Catherine's District Prison, April 19, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 17th instant.

There are no vermin on the prisoners, and care is taken of their being kept clean.

The prisoners' clothes are boiled, washed, and repaired weekly by the female prisoners.

No prisoners are ever worked in shackles in this prison.

No misdemeanants of the first class are worked out of the walls.

I am, &c.
(Signed) O. F. MENDES,
Superintendent.

Henry B. Shaw, Esq.,
Inspector of Prisons.

Sir, Spanish Town, April 19, 1865.

In reply to your letter I may state that I see all the prisoners every week, and that they are kept as clean as it is possible for them to be.

When occasionally I find vermin on them, steps are always taken to have them destroyed; but it is quite untrue that they are habitually unclean and covered with vermin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES CECIL PHILLIPS,
M. D.

H. B. Shaw, Esq.
Inspector of Prisons.

Sir, Kingston, April 20, 1865.

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have this morning taken upon me the duties of Medical Officer at the Penitentiary. Commencing with a careful examination of the persons of such prisoners as were within the walls of the institution, amounting to upwards of four hundred, I have the satisfaction to report that I found them in a healthy and most cleanly condition, free from vermin of every description, and not exhibiting in any case an indication of any scorbutic or cutaneous affection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW DUNN.

H. B. Shaw, Esq.,
Inspector of Prisons.

JAMAICA.

The Rev. J. EDMONDSON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Honourable Sir, Kingston, Jamaica, April 20, 1865.

I have been honoured with his Excellency the Governor's circular of March 13th, and have submitted certain questions to the Wesleyan ministers in various parts of the Island, with the intention of obtaining the most accurate information on the important subjects contained therein in connexion with Dr. Underhill's letter to the Hon. E. Cardwell.

I was favoured with an interview with Dr. Underhill when he was in this Island, and regard him as a gentleman of high intellectual attainments and great moral worth, and would not oppose his statements without giving them due consideration. Yet it is possible he may have been misinformed on one or two points, and that he may have over-drawn his picture in consequence.

My present information does not enable me to confirm the intimation that the coloured population are unjustly taxed, and that they are refused just tribunals, nor that the political rights of the emancipated negroes are denied them. So far as I have been able to observe, the laws have entirely disregarded colour, and placed every man in the same circumstances. How far those laws govern the country courts, when masters or servants appeal to the justices, I am not in circumstances to determine; but I think that if stipendiary magistrates had been continued the decisions in many cases might have been much more satisfactory than they are often reported to have been. I think also that litigation would be discouraged, and the interests of the peasantry much better promoted, if the clerks of the magistrates, and others employed in the administration of justice, had a fixed salary, and no other emolument. The perquisites of office act in too many instances as a stimulant to promote strife.

There is great distress among the labouring classes; many have to live on the coarsest food, and can scarcely obtain a sufficient quantity of that, and numbers of the aged and sick are in a starving condition. When from home they make a decent appearance, but hundreds, I may say thousands, are kept from Divine service, and are unable to send their children to school, for want of suitable clothing, and this is attributed to the smallness of income, and the high price of goods consequent on the American war.

The houses in which they live are very small, and do not admit of sufficient sleeping accommodation for the sexes, and this engenders loose habits and immoral practices.

The pinchings of hunger, and the sight of starving families, have probably tempted some men who in past times have sustained good characters to petty theft, and when once committed the snare has become greater, and habitual dishonesty has followed. Yet I think a large number of those committed for larceny are habitually idle and dissolute, and steal because unwilling to work.

It is quite true that the lower classes are fond of dress, and will make many sacrifices to obtain it. When they appear in places of worship, in the markets, and at courts of law, they are moderately attired; but the texture of their garments is thin and coarse, and there is reason to believe that they are few in number.

When unexpectedly visited in their homes the adults are seen in tattered garments, the children are scarcely covered, and some of the little ones are in a state of nudity.

I have often been perplexed between the statements of employers and labourers. Many of the former say they cannot obtain labour, and emigration has been regarded as necessary for the working of large properties. Yet some of the planters affirm that they can obtain as many hands as they want, but intimate that they pay a fair price, and settle with their labourers at stated times, according to agreement. On the other hand a large number of the labourers assert that they cannot obtain work at all. When living at a distance from sugar estates, some of them have left home on Sunday to be in time to commence work on the Monday morning, and yet numbers have failed, and have had to return home unemployed. I am of opinion, after many years of inquiry and observation, that the majority are willing to work, and glad to be employed when fairly treated. Generally the remuneration is 1*s.* per day for a strong man, 9*d.* for a woman, and 6*d.* or 4½*d.* for a boy or girl. Job-work has for some time been substituted for day labour; but it is said that in many cases the fields are longer neglected, and the work greater and the pay smaller than in former times. On some properties a few are employed throughout the year, but the masses are only wanted about eight out of the twelve months.

The general impression is that the people are much poorer now than they were five or six years ago. This may have been caused by the abandonment to a large extent of sugar and coffee cultivation, and to the discouragement of small cultivators by the depredations of the idle and dishonest; and the suffering is intensified by the long and still continued drought. But want of capital and of enterprize in some, and indolent habits and prevalent immorality in others, have also contributed largely to the present suffering. Yet while large numbers have grown poorer, and are almost in a state of destitution, a few have improved in their circumstances, and are likely to rise in respectability.

But besides the labourers there is another class whose circumstances should be represented. Many of these, once in comfortable circumstances, have not been brought up to hard labour, and are incapable of agricultural pursuits, and have not a friend who can afford them help. Hundreds of females in this city and in other parishes are obliged to eke out a miserable existence by sewing, and of this very little can be obtained, even at low rates of remuneration. This is well known to those who occasionally visit them in their homes, habitually miss them in places of public worship, and witness the eagerness to obtain employment when offered by public institutions. The importation of ready made clothing on a large scale, the introduction of the sewing machine, and the contracted income of better circumstanced families, militate seriously against the comforts of this class.

Ground provisions have risen in price; but the increase varies in different parts of the country, and it may be fairly doubted whether this has or has not contributed to the present distress. The scarcity which has caused the increase of price may have arisen from drought, from the depredations of the idle, and from the neglect of cultivation consequent on the discouragement which repeated acts of plunder have subjected the people to.

Forty-three years ago I sailed from England for the West Indies, and during the whole of my residence in the colonies I have avoided political controversies, but now the sufferings of Jamaica forbid continued silence, especially as the Governor invites an expression of opinion.

Dr. Underhill's suggestions numbered 1, 2, 3, are worthy of serious consideration; but I think the

people should not be discouraged from the cultivation of sugar, either to supply their own wants or for sale on the Island, or even for exportation if they wish to try their skill in that line. The trial of a few years will convince them whether it is likely to be remunerative or unprofitable, and if an evil it will soon cure itself.

The Legislature should in the next session if possible offer adequate encouragement to English and other capitalists to come and settle in the Island, for the purpose of cultivating the thousands of acres of and other lands now in a state of abandonment. Unfortunately Jamaica is scarcely anything but an agricultural and grazing country, almost without manufactories of any kind, and if the land be not cultivated the inhabitants cannot live. Many of the former proprietors have sold their estates and retired, and if these properties are ever to be cultivated again a sufficient encouragement must be offered to gentlemen who have means sufficient for the undertaking.

Encouragement should be offered to companies or associations who would undertake to purchase large properties, and sell or rent proportions of them to the labouring classes on such terms as will be likely to secure more general cultivation. If this do not accord with the views of large proprietors, it will lesson the complaint of want of work, make vegetable and other products more plentiful, and greatly increase the exports. I have long been of opinion that a large increase of small freeholders would tend greatly to the prosperity of the Island, if protected by salutary laws.

If the educational grant can be increased, on the condition of agricultural pursuits being joined with general instruction, and this in connexion with the use of such machinery as science has produced and is producing for the better cultivation of the soil, the benefit would in a few years be great to the planting and other interests.

Railways for the transit of goods and passengers, as in other civilized countries, are worthy of the serious consideration of the Government.

But it may be said that the country cannot bear extra taxation for the carrying out of these and other desirable measures. That taxation cannot be safely increased I readily admit; but are there not items in the general expenditure that might be gradually decreased and ultimately abandoned? I mention one, alluded to by several of my correspondents. If all the churches can become self-supporting tens of thousands of pounds per annum would be saved to our distressed and almost perishing Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. EDMONDSON.

No. 19.

No. 19.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 117.) King's House, April 25, 1865.
(Received May 30, 1865.)
(Answered No. 222, June 14, 1865, page 139.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward a petition transmitted for the purpose, addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, purporting to be a statement of the distress and grievances under which the writers, certain poor people (as they call themselves) of St. Ann's, consider that they labour. Petition.

2. This is the first fruits of Dr. Underhill's letter, which represented the peasantry of Jamaica as being generally in a destitute, naked, and starving condition, a representation which many of them will be quite ready to take advantage of, and try to turn to their own account in every way they can; nor will there be wanting persons in this Colony to encourage and urge them on; and I fear that the result of Dr. Underhill's communication, and the circulars of the Baptist Missionary Society, will have a very prejudicial influence in unsettling the minds of the peasantry, making them discontented with their lot, and disinclined to conform to the laws which regulate their taxation, their civil tribunals, or their political status, all of which they have been informed are unjust, partial, or oppressive.

3. I do not doubt that other communications of a nature similar to the one now transmitted will soon make their appearance, and that the deluded people will be fully under the impression, either that Her Majesty's Government will directly contribute to their relief pecuniarily, or that they will cause them to be relieved from the taxation which has been represented as so unjust and oppressive.

4. Before forwarding the petition now enclosed, I deemed it right to refer it to the custos of the district, for his report, which I now attach. Mr. Royes goes so fully into the whole report, that it is unnecessary for me to do more than add that he is a gentleman of high character, deservedly respected and esteemed throughout the Colony, is a member of the Legislative Council, as well as the custos of the parish, and has had a long practical acquaintance with and experience in Jamaica. Mr. Royes to Mr. Austin, 18th Apr. 1865.

JAMAICA.

In my Despatch No. 90,* of the 19th instant, I transmitted an able and interesting report from this gentleman on Dr. Underhill's letter generally.

* Page 27.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE, Governor.

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE POOR PEOPLE OF JAMAICA AND PARISH OF SAINT ANN'S.

To our most Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, rule over us, long may she live. God bless the Queen.

We, the undersigned, beg respectfully that his Excellency the Governor of our Island of Jamaica will be pleased to forward this petition to our most Gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria.

2. We, the poor people of this Island, beg, with submission, to inform our Queen that we are in great want at this moment from the bad state of our Island. Soon after we became free subjects "we could get plenty of work, and well paid;" then all the estates "was in a flourishing state," but at this moment the most of the estates are thrown up. The pimento proprietors but seldom clean their properties, the price of pimento being so low as 1*d.* per lb. Some of us, after we became free subjects, purchased a little land, some of us a lot, half acre, one acre, and so on, at the rate of 10*l.* and 12*l.* per acre merely as a home. We have to leave our home every day when we can get employment, so that we may have means to go to market on Saturdays, by working on an estate or pen. Our little homes, we, having turned up the soil so often, that it become useless for provision, by which means we are compelled to rent land from the large proprietors at the rate of 2*l.* 8*s.* per acre for one year, and the rent must be paid in advance. In many instances our provisions is destroyed by cattles; and if the proprietors find the most simple fault, three months' notice is given, and we have to destroy our provisions, at the same time numbers of us having a large family of eleven or twelve children depending on the provisions for subsistence. We, your most humble subjects and poor of the Island of Jamaica, pray and beg the aid of our most Gracious Lady Queen Victoria. Formerly we could get from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per day as labourers, as a carpenter or other tradesmen 3*s.* to 4*s.* per day. A job that we formerly would get 2*l.* for at this moment is only for 12*s.* Three or four of us may take job work, and when it is finished in many instances we have to wait for weeks for payment of our work. During that time numbers of us, not having a protected provisions field, felt great want and distress for want of employment. A number of our people commit themselves, by which means if we had the least provision made for us a very few of your subjects would of degraded themselves, and the Penetentiary of our Island would not be so full of convicts. We are blessed with a good Island, but we require a much larger extent of cultivation. If our Most Gracious Sovereign Lady will be so kind as to get a quantity of land, we will put our hands and heart to work, and cultivate coffee, corn, canes, cotton, and tobacco, and other produce. We will form a company for that purpose, if our Gracious Lady Victoria our Queen will also appoint an agent to receive such produce as we may cultivate and give us means of subsistence while at work. Your humble servants return thanks to the Lord and our Most Gracious Lady Queen Victoria for the benefits we have received. Each of us beg that our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria will be so kind as to get us a quantity of such land as we now stand in need of. We, your humble servants, will thankfully repay our Sovereign Lady by installments of such produce as we may cultivate. Your humble servants is willing to work so that we may be comfortable. We have that knowledge to know that your servants must feel want. We are in great want of active employment, that is land room, plentiful for the last ten years. If it had not been for the bread fruits and cocoa nut numbers of us would of perished. Our deficulties is very great. We have to pay 9*d.* per yard for cloth of the worst kind. The cloth in general is so high in price that numbers of our people is half naked. If our Gracious Sovereign will be so kind as to grant our request in a few years time our Sovereign Lady Queen will see the improvement of our Island, and the benefit that your humble servants will derive. We are far away from our Gracious Queen, otherwise your humble servants would all speak to our Sovereign personally of our distress. We think that our distress is felt throughout the Island, and we hope that some of our adjoining neighbours in other parishes will also state to our Sovereign their distress.

3. We, the undersigned, your humble servants, have heavy taxes to pay, and have to pay the export duty on our little produce when selling it to the merchants. Your humble servants beg the notice of our Gracious Lady Queen Victoria, wishing her long life to reign over your poor and humble servants of the parish of Saint Ann's and Island of Jamaica. We, your humble servants, being short of knowledge, beg that our Most Gracious Lady Queen Victoria will over sight anything that we may say improper. We, your most humble servants, will as a duty bound ever pray,

GOD BLESS THE QUEEN.

(Signed) George B. Williams.	+	Geo. Barnett.	+	John Gawey.	+
James Scott.	+	Joseph Parry.	+	Charles Dunn.	+
Benjamin Grier.	+	George Wilson.	+	Henry Williams.	
John Tulle.	+	Edward Taylor.	+	James Harrison.	
Henry Thomas, his	+	George Brown.	+	James Edwards.	
Williams and Forth.		Malcolm Genkins.	+	John Hannell.	
Thomas Parkins, his	+	George Paisley.	+	David Chashie.	+
Wm. McKenzie.		Richard Bradley.	+	Richard Tracey.	+
James Henry.	+	James Henry.	+	William Runnalls.	
George Spencer.	+	William McHew.	+	Ellis Grant.	+
Thomas Walters.		John Cunningham.	+	Napthan Anderson.	+

Thomas Cahmbers.		Micle Plunkett.	+	John Harry.	+
James Brown.	+	James Wilbey.	+	Robert Curadious.	+
Thomas Da Cort.		Samuel Hay.	+	William Henry McBean.	
William East.		1 Charles Beacher.	+	John Winter.	
Alib Harrison.	+	2 Charles Beacher.	+	Benjamin Williams.	+
Isaac Walker.	+	Henry Beacher.	+	James Gagner.	+
Stephen McBean.	+	William Beacher.	+	Richard Brown.	+
Willington Morris.	+	Edward Williams.		John Williams.	
John Henry.	+	William Boswell.		John Gregory.	+
Matthew Douglas.	+	John Beahan.	+	James Smith.	+
John Spencer.	+	Henry J. McCullum.		Thomas Stewart.	
John Anderson.	+	James Henry Mnrphy.	+	Alex. Anderson.	+
William Tracey.	+	William McBean.	+	William Johnson,	+
Richard H. Hemming.	+	Thomas Rose.	+	Charles Coombs.	
David Shaw.	+	John White, sener.	+	Richard Blackwin.	
William Henry.	+	John White jun.	+	George Lawrence.	+
James Howell.	+	James White, jun.	+	Thomas Jefferson.	
James Shaw.	+	Thomas Ashmeade.	+	William Js. Northoven.	
Wm. Sul. Saint.	+	Duncan Smith.	+	Thos. J. Williamson.	
James Walker.	+	Charles Saint.	+	Collen Plunkett.	+
Zurish Brown.	+	Robert Webb.	+	Richard Garvey.	+
Charles Bonner.	+	Robert Byfield.	+	John Williams.	+
Dover Gray.	+	Robert Johnson.		James Forrest.	
Charles Brown.	+	James Crosbie.	+	Saml. Warde.	
Richard R. Archer.	+	John Davis.	+	Neil Campbell.	

MR. ROYES to MR. AUSTIN.

Sir, Windsor, St. Ann, April 18, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge his Excellency the Governor's communication of the 4th inst. enclosing a petition to Her Majesty the Queen from certain persons in the Ocho Rios district in this parish, requesting me to report thereon.

An attentive consideration of the petition leads to the conclusion that it is based upon Dr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Secretary on the distress said to exist among the emancipated population in Jamaica, and that if such letter had not been written neither would the petition have appeared.

2. The petitioners set forth that during the first years of emancipation the estates were flourishing, labour well paid, and themselves prosperous, but at the present moment estates are thrown up, and that they are in distress. It may be well to consider the causes of this change.

3. That estates were not flourishing is amply proved by the great and general abandonment of sugar and coffee cultivation on a large scale throughout the Island. The chief causes of this abandonment may, in my opinion, be traced to—

1st. Exorbitant wages, compared with the work performed:

2d. Want of continuous labour:

3d. The impossibility under these two adverse conditions of competing with slave-grown produce.

4. The first two causes are solely due to the people themselves. Their prosperity was not founded on the sound basis of steady industry, and naturally ceased so soon as the capital of the proprietor was exhausted in the vain attempt to compete, under the adverse conditions before named, with slave produce, and the distress which may now exist is the sure and certain consequence, and might have been as absolutely predicted as that it is increased from the want of persistent industry and habits of improvidence.

5. The petitioners state that their distress is increased by the following circumstances:—

1st. The exorbitant rent demanded, 48*s.* per annum for their provision grounds, which must be paid in advance:

2d. Destruction of their provisions by cattle, and, although they do not say so, I infer, inability to obtain redress:

3d. Insecurity of tenancy; for the least fault three months' notice to quit is given them, and they have to destroy their growing provisions.

6. The average rate per acre of provision grounds may be fairly assumed at 20*s.* to 24*s.* Some few proprietors, very few, however, may demand 48*s.*, and usually the quantity of land in these cases is not restricted. I have lately given some dissatisfaction to perhaps the largest body of tenants on any one estate in Saint Ann's, by insisting that they shall pay per acre, and not cultivate ad libitum, reducing at the same time the rent from 40*s.* to 20*s.* per acre. When it is remembered also that our peasantry destroy all the timber, and thoroughly exhaust the soil, leaving it profitless for years, and then abandon it for fresh land, and that the estimated value of an acre of provisions is 20*l.*, the higher rent cannot be deemed excessive. No instances of payment in advance have come directly under my notice; on the contrary, the rent is generally in arrear, and the tenant often asks for and obtains three months without rent to clear the land. Against damage done by cattle the law gives easy and ample redress, and they avail themselves of it; in some cases purposely driving stock into their almost uncultivated grounds. Such instances may be put on a par with those in which their reasonable and just complaints are disregarded, and may be considered as exceptional. I have generally found them willing to accept moderate compensation, if accompanied by kind words, and am convinced that although there may be some few cases of individual distress for a time from this cause, there is nothing like general distress arising from it, and that such trespass is only occasional, and not to any extent.

7. The Statute Law of Great Britain is the Tenancy Law here. Even when the tenancy expires, if the annual crop is not matured the tenant has the right of reaping it, on paying the rent, and that by law,

Jamaica.

and not by sufferance. If any special agreements are made no legislation can provide against such. I am informed on one property (the form I enclose) there is such an agreement. It is obvious that the people need not rent land on this property, and if they do so it is with a full knowledge of the terms.

8. The petitioners complain that when they do take job or contract work it is in many instances not paid for when completed. I do not believe any employer is so ignorant of the value of regular payments as to defer it; but he has frequently to make and dispose of his crop ere he has the means of doing so. and the complaint, which is not unfounded, serves to show that poverty is not confined to the labourer. It is no doubt hard on him, but not the cause of his distress. Often does a man take as many weeks as he ought to take days ere he finishes his job.

9. The more I reflect on the subject the more I am convinced that the increase of crime is not owing to existing poverty; on the contrary, I am inclined to believe that the poverty is in some degree due to the crime, and that in the majority of cases idleness is the root of it. The frequent robbery of provision fields falls heavily on the industrious man; but I need not repeat here the remarks I have had the honour of submitting to his Excellency on this subject.

10. The remedy suggested by the petitioners is impracticable, and if practicable would only extend pauperism and many other social evils. Remove them from the little civilizing influences now surrounding them, and their condition would be speedily and sadly aggravated. Our peasantry are not an indocile nor can you call them altogether an idle race, for they can work well when they like; but they are not capable of sustained action, and want habits of steady industry and self-reliance. Legislation cannot provide a remedy for these, and perhaps distress and suffering are the only correctives. Their present state is not the growth of a day but of years; any change must flow from themselves; and if the warnings of the past and present are not unheeded, in the future they may perchance have to congratulate themselves that out of evil ariseth good.

11. I have been informed that some of the petitioners are well to do, and that a large quantity of good land in the district can be purchased for 40*s.* to 50*s.* per acre.

I have, &c.
Charles Royes,
Custos of St. Ann's.

Jamaica, Ss.

Memorandum of Agreement, made this day of one thousand eight hundred and fifty between of the parish of of the one part and of the said parish of of the other part ; whereas is the proprietor of certain plantation in the parish of called ; whereas the said is desirous of leasing and hiring from the said acre of land, part and parcel of the said plantation of , upon the following conditions, which conditions the said is willing to accept, and doth hereby covenant faithfully to perform and keep; first, that the rent shall cemmence on the day of the date of this agreement, and shall continue until the day of one thousand eight hundred and fifty , on which day the said , or his heirs or assigns, shall have full power to re-enter, without let, or hindrance on the part of the said ; second, that the annual rent for acre shall be , payable and if the said shall enter into possession, or in any way occupy the said of land, without the payment of he shall be treated as a trespasser, and be liable to prosecution for such trespass, it being perfectly understood that the commencement of this tenancy depends upon the payment of rent third, that the said shall only occupy acre of land; but as it may be expensive to survey such a small portion, it is mutually understood that if the said at any time desires to survey the land occupied by the said and if on such survey it shall turn out that its extent exceeds , then and in such case the said hereby engages to pay at the rate of for any such extra quantity, such rent to commence from six months previous to the survey; fourth, that in the event of the said becoming in arrear three months after the said rent shall have fallen due, he forfeits all claim to the land, or anything thereon growing; and the said or his assigns shall have full power to resume possession of the said acre of land without any hindrance on the part of the said . fifth, that the said having once chosen acre of land shall be bound to continue in possession of such acre until the termination of the tenancy, and if he leave the same, and occupy any other portion of the land without permission first asked and obtained of the said or his assigns, he the said shall be considered a trespasser, and become subject and liable to be prosecuted as such; it being hereby mutually agreed that the tenancy is confined to the land first chosen by the tenant, and that he can occupy or cultivate none other, unless by the sanction and permission of the landlord; sixth, that the said hereby engages that he will not cut down, destroy, or in any way injure any pimento trees, bullet trees, or useful timber trees of any description; and if he does so cut down, injure, and destroy any such trees he shall be liable to be criminally prosecuted, as though he had not been a tenant; it being his duty to look over the land, prior to his taking possession, to ascertain if such trees would prevent his cultivating to the same advantage, and in such case he need not assume possession of the said land; seventh, that the said , or his heirs or assigns, shall in no way be liable for any damage done by his stock on the ground of the said the said hereby

contracting to fence the said land to prevent such trespass; and he doth hereby covenant and agree that injury to and from the said land he will not commit any damage or trespass in any other portion of the land of the said JAMAICA.

Signed this day of one thousand eight hundred and fifty , by the parties before named, having been first carefully read over and explained to the said and a copy of the same left in possession.

No. 20. No. 20.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 222.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 14, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 117,* of the 25th of April, enclosing a petition addressed to the Queen by certain poor people of the parish of St. Ann's, Jamaica. * Page 135.

2. I request that you will inform the petitioners that their petition has been laid before the Queen, and that I have received Her Majesty's commands to inform them that the prosperity of the labouring classes as well as of all other classes depends in Jamaica and in other countries upon their working for wages, not uncertainly or capriciously, but steadily and continuously, at the times when their labour is wanted, and for so long as it is wanted; and that if they would use this industry, and thereby render the plantations productive, they would enable the planters to pay them higher wages for the same hours of work than are received by the best field labourers in this country; and as the cost of the necessaries of life is much less in Jamaica than it is here, they would be enabled, by adding prudence to industry, to lay by an ample provision for seasons of drought and dearth; that they may be assured that it is from their own industry and prudence in availing themselves of the means of prospering that are before them, and not from any such schemes as have been suggested to them, that they must look for an improvement in their condition; and that Her Majesty will regard with interest and satisfaction their advancement through their own merits and efforts.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 21. No. 21

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 128.)

King's House, May 6, 1865.

SIR, (Received May 30, 1865.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit some further reports (noted in the margin), which have reached me since closing my Despatch No. 90† of the 19th ultimo, in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. † Page 29.

Baptist Report, 1st May 1865.
Hon. Custos Ketelhodt to Mr. Austin, 13th April 1865.
Ditto 5th May.
Mr. Hine to Hon. Custos Ketelhodt, 26th April 1865.
Hon. S. Mais to Mr. Austin, 3d April 1865.
Mr. Bicknell to Mr. Austin, 1st May 1865.
Rev. Mr. Edmonston to Mr. Austin, 20th April 1865.
Rev. A. L. Thaeler to Gov. Eyre, 24th April 1865.

2. After a careful perusal of these documents, I do not see any cause to alter the opinions expressed in my Despatch No. 90. The reports now forwarded it is true speak of a larger amount of distress and of greater difficulty of obtaining employment than was mentioned in the reports of the custodes or of the clergy of the Church of England, and in some instances they ascribe the prevailing crime of larceny to want and destitution; but it was only to be expected that there would be a great conflict of opinions upon these points, as well as upon many others connected with or arising out of the subjects touched upon by Dr. Underhill.

3. From the Baptist Society the report now transmitted is a very carefully and ably got up paper, and contains much interesting and valuable information. But even here it will be found that considerable difference of opinion prevails on various points amongst the several ministers whose statements are appended in support of the general report.

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4. I propose to make a few comments which the communication and its appendixes suggest; but it is impossible for me to attempt to enter upon or discuss them in all their multifarious details.

5. The report sets out by stating that the Baptist ministers are wholly dependent upon their people for support, and that therefore, by being brought into a more immediate and closer relationship with the labouring classes, of whom their congregations chiefly consist, they are more likely to have a full and intimate acquaintance with the condition and circumstances of the peasantry than other persons not so situated.

This is undoubtedly true; but at the same time as they are personally affected by the falling off in the contributions formerly made by their congregations it may not unreasonably be supposed that their views would take a stronger form of expression than those of others not so interested, and that there would be a not unnatural tendency to ascribe to poverty and distress a falling off which may in part be due to a growing irreligion, or to an indisposition to support their ministers.

About the time of emancipation the negroes looked upon their ministers as having largely helped to bring about their freedom. For some time afterwards too they regarded them as their chief friends and advisers, and they supported them liberally. I do not say that they have lost this regard for their pastors; but they now find that they no longer require the aid and assistance from them which they formerly did, in fact that there is not so much visible and tangible advantage to be derived from their services as then; and I fear that it would be only human that in consequence of this there should be less disposition to contribute liberally towards the maintenance of their ministers. It must also be remembered that the people who benefited so immediately and sensibly by the abolition of slavery have nearly passed away, and that the present generation, never having known the evils or sufferings of slavery, may perhaps be less alive to the obligations they are under to those whose exertions contributed largely to bring about its abolition.

6. As a whole the report is a very fair and candid one, and will convey to Her Majesty's Government much important and useful information, though there are of course many statements, opinions, or inferences in which I am unable to coincide. I think too that the report does not sufficiently trace up the evils and distress which do admittedly exist (opinions varying chiefly as to degree) to the faults or shortcomings of the peasantry themselves, though it bears ample testimony to their idleness, apathy, pride, improvidence, night revels, gambling, social disorganization, and open profligacy, so generally commented upon in the reports forwarded in my Despatch No. 90.*

* Page 29.

7. It is also reported that children forsake the parental roof at 11 or 12 years of age, find a ready welcome at the yards of vicious neighbours, under whose bad advice and bad example they give way to a reckless, lawless, and roving disposition, become indolent and insolent, and in time are numbered with those who live chiefly by plunder. And in Schedule H. it is stated that stealing "is the natural disposition," and that "some would steal if they were kings." Mr. East gives an instance (Schedule H.) in which a notorious thief had expressed his determination "not to work while he could "live without it."

8. Complaint is made of the encouragement given to dishonesty on sugar estates by a practice which it is alleged exists of compromising felonies, by the imposition of a fine or of corporal punishment. I have never before heard of such a practice, but if it does exist it is utterly unknown to and unsanctioned by the law, and cannot be of general prevalence.

My own conviction is, that the pressure which now undoubtedly exists amongst a portion of the population, and which from the long continuance of the drought has become intensified during the last few weeks, owes its origin in a great measure to the habits and character of the people, induced by the genial nature of the climate, the facility of supplying their wants in ordinary seasons at comparatively little exertion, and their natural disposition to indolence and inactivity, and to remain satisfied with what barely supplies absolute wants. When this limited amount of exertion is frustrated by drought, and there is no surplus cultivation to fall back upon or make up the deficiency, pinching want is necessarily felt; but I do not think this want is general. Aged, infirm, diseased, or destitute persons there must always be in every community, and Jamaica is no exception. The complaint that persons are obliged to wander great distances to seek work is as applicable to England, Ireland, or Scotland as it is to this Colony; and it is equally true that if a few cases of death from destitution have taken place in Jamaica, as is asserted, they are very few in comparison with those which annually occur from the same causes in the wealthiest and most prosperous countries of Europe.

No poor laws or no parochial system could ever be devised which would prevent such occurrences, however deeply they are to be regretted and lamented.

9. It is freely admitted that "Dr. Underhill states the case too strongly when he says the people are starving." It is equally allowed that the existing distress is not confined to any one class, but that the proprietary and the peasantry are alike suffering. Indeed the diminished cultivation of sugar on some estates, and the continually going on abandonment of others, is forcibly pointed out, and the necessary result of this must be a reduced circulation of money and a lessened employment of labour. Still there can be no doubt, I think, in the present state of things, the peasantry are relatively better off, and are in a position to do far better for themselves in their station of life, than the planters are in theirs.

10. Inability to obtain employment is reported to be very general, and it is stated that whilst there is abundant native labour, immigrants have been imported to supplant the creoles; but the writers lose sight of the fact that the planter was driven to seek foreign labourers because those of the country were not to be depended upon, would only work when and how it suited themselves, and had no regard for the interests or requirements of the employers. When seasons were favourable the peasantry generally were too independent to care about work on estates, and now that drought has in some districts deprived them of their ordinary resources they complain that their natural place has been taken from them by aliens. But it needs no elaborate argument to prove that it was not likely the planters of Jamaica would have taxed themselves to import at great cost foreign labour if they could have obtained native labour on the spot of an equally useful and equally certain character.

Moreover no coolies have been imported since March 1863, and no Africans since February 1863, nor have more than about 17,000 immigrants been introduced into the Colony altogether since emancipation, now 30 years ago, and of these a large number have died, and a considerable number have been sent back to their own country, so that the total number of immigrants now in the Colony cannot be very great, and probably does not exceed one half of the number originally introduced.

Enclosure 9. Vide Memorandum by Agent General.

In condemning the introduction of immigrants, it is generally asserted that there is a superabundant native labouring population.

But what are the facts. With a population of 441,264 spread over an area of 6,400 square miles, or averaging 69 persons to the square mile, Jamaica is in a state of extreme decadence and depression.

In Barbados, on the other hand, where the population is 152,727 to only 166 square miles, or averaging 920 persons per square mile, the Colony is prospering and progressing.

The real truth is, that a dense population, and an inability to obtain land on which to locate themselves without the necessity of labouring for estates, creates a pressure which compels the peasantry of Barbados to a continuous industry, and industry begets prosperity, whilst in Jamaica the sparseness of the population, and the unlimited amount of land accessible to the labourers, lead to a very general withdrawal of the people from labour on estates, and to a consequent decay of the most important interests of the country. Nor is this compensated for by an equivalent amount of industry bestowed upon their own lands to which they retire. There, as has already been stated, they for the most part only attempt to cultivate to an extent barely sufficient to supply absolute wants, and those wants of a very primitive character; not to supply comforts, or advance themselves in the social scale. When this limited cultivation fails them through drought or in consequence of plundering, they have nothing to fall back upon, and may probably be unable to obtain the employment on estates which they are then ready enough to seek, the previous absence of a cheap, certain, and continuous supply of labour having destroyed the demand for it, by causing the abandonment of the majority of the sugar estates throughout the Island.

11. The Baptist report admits, and seems to think it will occasion surprise, that with so much uncultivated land obtainable the peasantry cultivate so little; a breadth which is more than once referred to as insufficient to provide adequately for themselves and families. Attempts are made to explain this by a specification of the supposed hindrances which exist to renting, such as the short leases granted, a liability to be removed at six months' notice, the distance of lands from their residences, the continual trespass of cattle, the absence of roads and bridges, the cost of titles, &c., &c.

It does not appear that short leases are general, but if they were, both that, and the liability to a six months' notice to quit (where it exists) are no doubt due to the dishonesty of the people in neglecting or evading the payment of rent, unless compelled

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to do so by a fear of ejectment (see Mr. East's testimony at Rio Bueno, Schedule G.) But land can generally be purchased on favourable terms in many districts as readily as it can be rented, and the people usually prefer to buy outright. The distance of provision grounds from residence would generally only exist in cases where the peasantry work on estates, and are dependant upon money wages rather than on their own cultivation, or where short leases and uncertain tenure render it unadvisable for them to put up cottages, for in other cases the peasant would naturally reside on or near to his provision grounds, or might do so if he chose. The trespass of cattle might be prevented to a great extent if the people would exert themselves to put up proper fences, but any which they ever attempt are of the most temporary and unsubstantial nature possible.

It is remarked in reference to this subject, that under certain clauses of the Petty Debt Bill which it is alleged did not pass the Council redress for injury from trespass would be still more difficult. I do not understand this statement, for no clauses of a law can be in force which have not received the sanction of all three branches of the Legislature.

The absence of roads and bridges in the remote or mountainous districts (where the peasantry chiefly reside) of a country like Jamaica is unavoidable from the difficulty of raising funds to construct them in places where the expense would be so great; but immediately the inhabitants of these districts descend from these fastnesses (so to speak) they have the full advantage of the main roads (which are generally in excellent order) for conveying their produce to or obtaining their supplies from market.

But even in the mountain districts much might be done by the people themselves to remedy the evil they complain of if they would only combine together, and give a certain amount of labour in each year to the pathways which connect their grounds with the main roads.

The cost of titles to land must always be great, where in each case a special survey in a difficult or distant district has first to be made, but titles are more or less expensive in every country.

Here too, however, combination would enable the people to obtain surveys at a cheaper rate; but they are stated in these reports to be disinclined to association, to be suspicious of and to have no trust in each other.

But the report of the Baptist Society itself acknowledges "that there is no denying "that had the people more persevering energy of character they would notwithstanding "these discouragements have accomplished more."

12. The causes of the distress which exists are stated to be the low rate of wages, caused partly by the drought driving such large numbers to seek employment, the irregular nature of the employment, the high price of food and clothing, the nonpayment of wages when work is done, the existence of the truck system, the failure of the provision crops, and the idleness, improvidence, and vice of the people.

No doubt all of these have a certain amount of influence in augmenting the distress which prevails, but I believe the three last to be the real sources of it; the others are chiefly accidental or temporary.

Even at the reduced rate of wages said to be now given, I believe that the amount of 1*s.* 6*d.* per day, quoted in the statement made by the Agent General in 1858 as the sum earnable for nine hours of steady and continuous labour, might now readily be obtained if the labour was steady and continuous for nine hours. I think this is abundantly proved by the reports sent home in my Despatch No. 90.* The reason why it is not earned is that the people will not work steadily or continuously or for nine hours; little more than half that period is more usually the extent of their day's work.

* Page 29.

13. In Schedule C. the Reverend J. M. Phillippo gives an account of the distress which exists in the highlands of the parishes of St. Catherine or districts of Spanish Town and Sligo Ville, and states many causes as occasioning that distress, amongst others the want of employment and inadequate wages.

And yet, in strange contrast with this state of things, and in the face of the distress, want of employment, and low wages, I have to state that Mr. Phillippo himself applied to me last August for permission to have convicts employed in repairing the damages done by the floods to the roads of his district, because the labourers of the country would not work unless at exorbitant wages. Very many instances of similar attempts at extortion have come under my own knowledge since I have been in Jamaica, and I think it cannot be wondered at, that when such a trait is displayed by the peasantry the planters, whose whole success depends upon the certainty and continuousness of

Enclosure 10. Rev. Mr. Phillippo to the Governor, 30th Aug. 1864.

labour, should have felt themselves compelled to seek it from abroad, upon finding that the creole labourers were not to be depended upon when their services were really wanted, however anxious they might appear to be for employment when it suited their own requirements, or casual circumstances made them need it.

Again it is stated in Schedule K. that in the towns tradesmen charge 3*s*. a day, and will not come down in their charges, which does not indicate any very great amount of pressure by poverty, especially when it is remembered that this statement is further accompanied by the remark that there is a lack of skilled workmen. I append a statement of the wages actually paid last year to a large number of workmen engaged for many months in repairing King's House.

Enclosure 11. Mr. Clarke to the Governor, 8th May 1865.

Large numbers of needlewomen are stated to be unable to get employment, and yet it is recommended that a few sewing machines should be introduced as a great boon. Many of these females either owned or are descended from those who owned properties or slaves bequeathed to them by those who had cohabited with them. The properties have since become depreciated in value, and the slaves who used to be profitably let out for hire have long since been freed, whilst the compensation money received from them has generally been expended, leaving large numbers of a class who are both little able as well as unwilling to do any kind of work except needlework almost wholly destitute of means of support, unless from parochial aid or private charity.

14. That the peasantry labour under some difficulties and disadvantages is undeniable, but some of these are such as might be removed or greatly lessened by their own exertions or by combination. The wants which are pointed out of good schools and of medical attendance are owing in a great measure to their own apathy and indifference, and to their unwillingness to contribute either for the education of their children or to provide medical attendance for their families.

The tardy administration of justice, mentioned in the report, is due (where it exists) to the difficulty of obtaining fit persons to place in the commission of the peace who are able to devote their time to the public service. It could only be rectified by the appointment of paid magistrates; but this has always been opposed by the House of Assembly. In the very last session a measure introduced by the Government with this object in view was rejected.

15. It is stated that the peasantry are occasionally subjected to hardship from the action of the police in causing men to travel many miles upon summonses for taxes which they have already paid.

I cannot understand how such an annoyance can occur if the obligations of the law have really been fulfilled, because when taxes are paid receipts and licences are given, and the parties would only have to produce such to satisfy the police or the collector of dues that they were not liable.

But it is an undoubted fact that the peasantry often try to escape and evade the taxes to which they are justly liable, and very often successfully so. If occasionally, therefore, some one should unjustly suffer, as is stated in this report to be the case, it is probably due to the discredit which these evasions have brought upon the class, and it would generally be found also that the individuals so suffering were suspicious characters, or that, having paid their taxes upon carts, they had not complied with the law which requires them to have the vehicles lettered and numbered. But under any circumstances I imagine that if any wrong is done there is always a legal remedy or redress.

16. The reports generally condemn both the indirect taxation on food and clothing and the direct taxation upon horses, mules, asses, wheels, &c. &c., and yet with singular inconsistency they state that the institutions of the country must be kept up, and suggest various schemes involving a large outlay of money, for supplying water in districts where there are no springs or streams, for extending education, for providing medical aid, for promoting industrial associations, &c. &c.

Without entering into any discussion of these questions, I may briefly mention that there is an Act, 27 Vict. cap. 4. (sess. 2.), already in existence, which provides for incorporating and regulating trading companies and other associations, and that under no circumstances would it do for the Government to be connected with or responsible for the operation of co-operative societies, which must necessarily be of a speculative character, and could neither be directed nor controlled by the Executive.

17. The registration fee of 10*s*. on claims to vote at elections, which is so much animadverted upon in several of the communications, has recently (so far as the small freeholders qualified to vote under 22 Vict. cap. 18. and taxpayers of 30*s*. are concerned)

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been repealed, though the fee is still payable upon other qualifications, or by those who pay less than 30*s.* taxes.

18. The alleged lenient treatment of prisoners in gaol has been commented upon in my former Despatch, when I pointed out that the dietary has been reduced, that a treadmill has been sent for from England, and that an enactment has been passed for the infliction of corporal punishment in certain cases.

19. It is alleged that unjust weights and measures are used to defraud the ignorant and unsuspicious peasantry; but if this be so it is a violation of the law which provides for the inspection and regulation of weights and measures, and any one, having good grounds for believing any weights or measures to be at variance with the standards ought to give information to the inspectors of weights and measures, or in the country districts to the clerks of the magistrates or to the police, so that the law might be enforced.

But it is stated in Schedule G. that the peasantry "possess such knowledge of commercial transactions that it would be difficult to defraud them."

20. The peasantry are said to be encouraged in litigation by the fact that the emoluments of the clerks of the peace and clerks of the magistrates depend in a great measure upon fees, derivable from the various processes of the law, or from advising in reference to or conducting cases. No doubt it is only right in principle that as a rule all public officers should receive fixed salaries instead of fees, and it would be especially so as regards clerks of the peace and magistrates; but I see little prospect of such a measure being brought about, nor could the clerks well be interdicted from private practice in advising with regard to or in undertaking cases intended to be brought before the petty courts.

21. As might be expected, the Baptists as a body condemn the ecclesiastical expenditure, and express their opinion that it is unjust and oppressive; but they forget that Jamaica was originally constituted a Colony having a state church, and that all persons coming to it of a different persuasion have done so with a full knowledge that this was so. Moreover the very fact (admitted in the report) that the contributions once so liberally given to the Baptist ministers are now greatly falling off is of itself an argument why it would be impolitic to withdraw the support given to the Established Church, and thereby run the risk of leaving the Colony without any adequate provision for religious teaching.

22. Finally the Baptists support the proposition of Dr. Underhill that Her Majesty's Government should undertake an inquiry into the state of Jamaica and the causes of the existing depression and distress.

I confess I cannot myself see any sufficient practical result likely to flow from such an investigation, which would justify or compensate for the very great expense that would have to be incurred.

It could not enable the Colony to support its institutions without taxation; or reduce the increased cost of articles imported from abroad, due to the American war; or make good the deficiency of home-grown produce, arising from drought or plunder; or eradicate an innate propensity to indolence, vice and crime, on the part of the population at large; or enable the planters, with an uncertain, inefficient, and expensive labour, to compete with sugar grown by cheap and compulsory labour.

Nor would it introduce into the Colony the materials admittedly lamentably deficient and daily decreasing for suitably supplying vacancies in the two branches of the Legislature or in the various departments of the public service, or enable the local Executive to direct and control the course of local legislation to a greater extent than has heretofore been found practicable.

Unless, therefore, Her Majesty's Government was prepared to reverse all existing conditions, abrogate the present constitution, and itself undertake to inaugurate and carry out such a system of policy and legislation as might be advised by the Commissson which it is recommended should be appointed, I see no real object to be attained in appointing such a Commission.

23. The other reports now transmitted from the Baron Von Ketelhodt, Custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East, Mr. Mais, Custos of Port Royal, Mr. Bicknell, Police Magistrate of Kingston, Reverend J. Edmonston, Superintendent of the Wesleyan Mission, Reverend A. H. Thaeler, Superintendent of the Moravian Mission, are all more or less confirmatory of the remarks I have made in this or in my former Despatch No. 90* of the 19th ultimo. They all agree also in representing Dr. Underhill's picture as being overdrawn in various particulars.

* Page 29.

Having already in these two despatches so fully entered into the subjects touched upon in these reports, it is unnecessary for me to add any further remarks.

24. I am happy to have it in my power to state that the long-continued drought appears to be now over, that in most of those districts which suffered from it refreshing showers have fallen, and already green grass is again procurable for stock, and ground provisions are rapidly springing up, so that if the Colony is blessed with the rains which usually fall towards the latter part of May any distress arising from a dearth of native grown provisions will soon have passed away.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Since closing this Despatch I have received a minute from Mr. Hosack (copy enclosed), one of the Members of the Executive Committee to whom the Baptist report was referred for their information.

Enclosure 12. Minute by Mr. Hosack, 6th May 1865.

May 9, 1865. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 21.

Encl. 1 in No. 21.

REPORT OF THE BAPTIST MINISTERS.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Governor of the Island of JAMAICA and its dependencies, and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Forces, &c.

SIR,

WE have the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's circular addressed to the Secretary of the Jamaica Baptist Union, transmitting a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a copy of a communication enclosed in it from the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent among its coloured population. Your Excellency is pleased to desire, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the opinion of the ministers of our body as to how far the remarks of Dr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring classes of their congregation; and to receive any other observations which the subjects touched upon in Dr. Underhill's letter may suggest or their own local experience may enable them to offer.

2. Your Excellency will allow us to assure you that the subject of your circular is one which lies near our hearts as Christian ministers concerned in whatever relates to the temporal and eternal interests of those committed to their pastoral oversight, or to the social well-being of the country in which they live. We beg therefore further to assure your Excellency that we have given it our most patient and anxious consideration.

On the receipt of your Excellency's circular our Secretary at once communicated with the ministers associated in the Jamaica Baptist Union (as also with some other recognised Baptist ministers not so associated), forwarding to each a series of questions with a view to elicit the information desired. Answers having been received, a meeting of the undersigned official members of the Union, as representatives of the entire body, was convened at Calabar Institution on the days of April the 19th and 20th, when the letter which we now have the honour to address to your Excellency was agreed upon.

3. Your Excellency is aware that the Jamaica Baptist Union comprises 73 congregations, including about 20,000 church members and upwards of 1,500 inquirers, besides a large body of persons in regular attendance on our religious services, and nearly 10,000 scholars in our day and Sunday schools. These congregations, it will be seen, on reference to Schedule A. in the Appendix to this letter, are spread through every county and through every parish of the Island, with two exceptions, and in these also there are recognised Baptist congregations.

Returns have been received from the great majority of districts, and but for our anxiety to reply to your Excellency with as little delay as possible there is no doubt the numbers would have been complete.

Our information, therefore, extends to nearly every part of the country, and it has, we think, been derived from fully reliable sources. It is of the labouring classes that Baptist congregations are chiefly composed. Our ministers are entirely dependant upon their people for support, and from their intimate relations to them, and close and constant intercourse with them, are certainly likely to be among the best informed on their social circumstances and condition.

Your Excellency will be pleased however to observe that the returns have reference, not so much to our own congregations, as to the districts in which they are situated.

5. To facilitate reference, the whole of the returns to hand have been tabulated under different heads, and are submitted to the notice of your Excellency in the form of an Appendix. Schedule A. gives the NAME OF EACH TOWN OR STATION in which the congregations represented meet, with the name of the parish and county in which they are. Schedule B. relates to POVERTY AND DISTRESS. Schedule C. to the CAUSES ASSIGNED FOR THE POVERTY AND DISTRESS which prevail. Schedule D. to LABOUR—SUPPLY AND DEMAND. Schedule E. to WAGES. Schedule F. to the ADVANCED PRICES OF FOOD AND CLOTHING. Schedule G. to the AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS OF THE PEASANTRY, apart from the estates, &c. Schedule H. to the CAUSES OF THE INCREASE OF THE CRIME OF STEALING. Schedule I. to TAXATION AND LAWS. While Schedule K. is SPECIAL IN RELATION TO THE LARGER TOWNS. The topics reported on in the Schedules will we think include all referred to in your

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Excellency's circular, as well as those on which we wish to offer any observations in accordance with your Excellency's permission. We therefore adopt this order in the statements which follow.

6. POVERTY and DISTRESS.—It must be allowed that in some respects the outward aspects of poverty and distress in such a climate as that of Jamaica differ from those observable in such a climate as that of England. But that poverty and distress in some of their most painful forms are wide spread we believe is not only shown in the evidence now submitted (see Schedule B.), but is attested by facts open to universal observation. Dr. Underhill may be understood to state the case too strongly when he says that the "people are starving;" but it is no exaggeration, in our judgment, to say, that large numbers of persons in various parts of the Island are in a starving condition.

Nor, we submit, is the prevalent distress confined to any one class of the community. The proprietary and the peasantry are alike suffering. A considerable number of estates are year by year being abandoned, as public advertisements and official returns too conclusively show; and on a large number cultivation has been considerably diminished. Merchants and storekeepers state that their trade has fallen off (see No. 1.), that they are unable to collect debts, and that the people generally cannot purchase clothing and food as in former days. Many persons of respectability are utterly unable to maintain their position, to practice their accustomed charities, and to meet their obligations. Small tradesmen and others in towns (see Schedule K.) are reduced to deep poverty and suffering. The houses of many are going to decay. They are obliged to sell their furniture, and trifling but valued articles of household use and ornament to obtain food, or are compelled to submit to their being levied and sold by public outcry to satisfy their creditors (see ib. No. 11, 36.)

As regards the labouring population, while there are many small settlers who, by their industry, frugality, and thrift, are still in comparative comfort, with others constantly employed on estates and properties, occupying situations of trust, or engaged in skilled labour,—while this is the case, the greater number have the greatest possible difficulty to support themselves and their families on their present low wages, with irregular employment, and the high price of food and clothing. This is especially the case in districts in which provision crops have failed from drought and the depredations of thieves; and in those districts in which there are neither springs nor streams, and where the peasantry are compelled to travel many miles to obtain water even to drink, their sufferings are painfully intensified.

Amongst other evidences of this state of things we may especially refer your Excellency to the following: (1) The condition of numbers of the peasantry in regard to clothing. The testimony of the returns we submit is unanimous to the effect that the people are less well clad in every respect than in former years, while some speak of rags and nakedness (see No. 2, 10, 11, 13, 14, 21,30, 48). This may not appear so much on the highway or in public places of resort; but from personal knowledge we can speak of illustrative facts in the settlements and houses of the people, within which the most destitute are hidden. (2) The numbers who absent themselves from public worship on the Lord's day, which, after careful inquiry, we have ascertained to arise almost entirely from the inability of the absentees to procure decent clothing to appear in (No. 7, 10, 13, 29, 33, 52, 65). (3) From the same cause, combined with scarcity of food, parents are prevented from sending their children to the day and Sunday schools. In some congregations it has been painful to observe the almost entire absence of children for the want of decent clothing to put on (see No. 7, 11, 13, 15, 60, 39). (4) Well authenticated reports have reached us of the death of old and sickly persons for want of nourishment; while young people are known to be stunted in their growth, and to be suffering from disease, through insufficiency of wholesome or the use of improper food (see No. 13, 49).

But we need not mention other proofs. The perusal of the Schedule which contains the returns on this subject will be all sufficient to convince your Excellency that we have not made statements unsustained by conclusive evidence. We will only add that there are in many districts sad signs of that social demoralization which, in times of deep distress, have been witnessed in other countries.

The young refuse to submit to parental control, and break away from the restraints of home and religious society, reckless of consequences. Few marriages take place, and young men and women live in open concubinage. Licentiousness, cases of violence and homicide, are frequent; stealing, especially of growing crops, has increased to an alarming extent, and our prisons are filled to overflowing.

7. The causes of this prevailing poverty and distress we venture to submit to your Excellency are some of them immediate, some of them more remote, and it must be confessed, difficult to trace. (1) On reference to Schedule C. your Excellency will observe that the immediate cause which in most cases is assigned is the drought.

This has crippled the resources of the planter, and diminishing by several thousand pounds the productiveness of the one staple article of sugar has curtailed the circulation of money among the working classes to a serious extent. Yet more directly has this cause affected the peasantry, by destroying either wholly or in part their ground provisions. On these they are largely dependant in most districts, in some entirely; and ground provisions failing them, numbers who derived their living from their cultivation have been compelled to seek subsistence by the hire of their labour in a market which, in many districts, is at all times overstocked; this too at a season when the demand for labour has greatly diminished. (3) This has tended to produce another cause of distress to the labourer generally, viz., the reduction of wages to so low a rate as to render it impossible for them, even when work is obtained, suitably to provide the necessaries of life for themselves and for those dependent upon them. (4) And in connexion with this, and in some measure, though only to a limited extent, arising out of it, is another cause of distress and poverty, viz., the want of employment (see Schedule C. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 15, 23, 30, &c.) And when employment has been obtained, in some districts the distress has been increased by the irregular payment of wages, and in some cases by the stoppage of them on frivolous pretences, while in other cases the labourer has suffered from estates' managers keeping stores on the estate, thus entailing the evils of the "truck system" (see No. 2, 3, 4.)

But we cannot conceal from your Excellency our conviction that there are other causes of poverty and distress, less temporary, and which lie more deeply in the social system. It will be painfully

evident to your Excellency from our returns that a large measure of the poverty and distress is attributable to indolence. This is especially the case among the young. Many of them having been accustomed to estate labour, when this fails them are unwilling to seek other kinds of employment, and prefer to roam about plundering the provision grounds of the more industrious, who are thereby plunged into poverty and often quite disheartened through the loss and insecurity of the fruit of their honest industry. We fear also that the same indolent habits are fostered with similar results by the small breadth of land which large numbers of small settlers have under cultivation, altogether unequal to the full and sufficient employment of themselves and their families.

Numerous other causes will come under the notice of your Excellency, operating with the foregoing to increase and perpetuate the present distress. Among these may be mentioned the want of medical provision for the poor, and the absence of a well-digested poor law, the want of a sufficient legal provision for the support of illegitimate and friendless children, and of aged persons. It is believed that a large portion of the young criminals that fill our gaols are orphans, chiefly children of those parents who were cut off by cholera and small-pox from 1850 to 1852, who have grown up without parental control or moral training; and also of illegitimate children cast out upon the world from their infancy. (See Schedule C., No. 55.)

It is also due to your Excellency that we should refer to the fact that the peasantry suffer great hardships from the tardy administration of justice in some of our petty courts, as also from the frequently vexatious action of the police in compelling them to travel great distances to answer summonses for taxes which they have already paid.

Such in our judgment are some of the causes of the poverty and distress which we are sure your Excellency will unite with us in deploring.

8. Among the foregoing causes of poverty and distress we have referred your Excellency to the want of employment. In evidence of this we need only refer you to Schedule D. of the Appendix, in which your Excellency will see not only the extent but the universality of the complaint.

We may especially point out some of the facts elicited from the returns submitted. From these it appears that in some districts numbers of people are known to walk from 6 to 30 miles in search of work (see Nos. 2, 4, 33, 46, 65); that numbers, even in crop time, applying to the estates for employment, are turned back without obtaining it (see Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15); that at the present time, in consequence of drought, and in some cases from partial cultivation, some estates are working short time (see Nos. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14); and that in many districts creole labour has been displaced either wholly or in part by that of coolies, Chinese, and Africans (see Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8. 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 32, 41, 45, 54, 57). Our returns, it may be remarked, have reference to the present season, when the estates are in full crop; while after crop-time it is to be observed that few estates afford to able-bodied creole men more than a very limited supply of labour.

But there are also circumstances within the knowledge of your Excellency certified by official returns fully corroborative of the facts we are representing. The present low state of the sugar market and the low price of cattle sufficiently explain the desire of the planter on his estate and of the pen-keeper on his pen to reduce expenditure; and one direction in which he is obviously compelled to do so is by the employment of fewer hands. We may also refer your Excellency, as incontestible proof of the diminished employment of labour, as well as of the painfully diminished resources of the country, to a comparison of the present with the past in the production of the one staple article of sugar. In (say) 1830 the sugar exported from this Colony was estimated at 60,000 hogsheads. At the present time, taking an average of years, it may be set down in round numbers at 30,000. Now the estimated cost, in work and wages, of making a hogshead of sugar, is 10*l.* The 60,000 hogsheads manufactured in 1830 would therefore represent in cost of production 600,000*l.*, as compared with 300,000*l.* expended in work and wages at the present time in the production of 30,000 hogsheads. At the same time it is to be considered that the population has increased from 350,000 in 1830, the slave population having been 310,000, to 450,000 in 1865. We believe we are also correct in estimating, as the consequence of drought, the diminished production of sugar in 1864 at 7,000 hogsheads as compared with 1863. This, therefore, on the same calculation of cost in work and wages, represents a loss to the productive industry of the country of no less a sum than 70,000*l.* on last year alone. Your Excellency will see in this statement evidence too sadly conclusive of the lack of employment, and of the impoverished condition of those dependant on manual labour for their daily bread.

9. We have also made mention to your Excellency of reduced wages as another explanation of the prevailing poverty and distress which have been described. In evidence of this we commend to your notice the returns which we submit in Schedule E. We have been at much pains to obtain full and accurate information on the subject.

In some cases it has been obtained from overseers and proprietors; in some from headmen and labourers; in some from both; and the figures quoted are based on a comparison of the statements of planters on the one side and of labourers on the other. On reference to the Schedule your Excellency will see that in all parts of the Island a reduction of wages is reported, in most to the extent of from 25 to 50 per cent.

In corroboration we may refer to the Official Statement of the Agent General of Immigration, under date of 25th May 1858, in which he says, "Able and industrious labourers may always expect to "receive 1*s.* 6*d.* per day for nine hours of steady and continuous labour. During the manufacture of "sugar higher wages will be paid, averaging from 2*s.* to 4*s.*, according to the number of hours, or in "proportion to the quantity of sugar made. The tradesmen most required on sugar estates are "coopers, masons, carpenters, and blacksmiths, who, if they are able and hardworking men, will easily "earn from 3*s.* to 5*s.* a day, according to their mechanical skill. Rooms or houses, with sufficient land "for a garden, and medicine and medical attendance, will be allowed to the immigrants for the period "during which his contract is to endure. Young people are much in demand to perform the light "work of cultivation, and would be easily hired at 9*d.* or 6*d.* per day."

The reduction of wages which a comparison of present rates with this statement makes so palpable is not however simply effected by a reduction of the nominal rate of the wages of day labour, but by

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various indirect methods. (1) Task labour has superseded day labour to a large extent, (2) The task has in some kinds of work been increased, while the same amount of money per task has been continued. The redundancy of labour in the market has enabled the planter to do this. In sugar boiling the cyphon or pan has been enlarged, while the labourer continues only to receive the same rate per cyphon, so that his earnings are reduced from 30 to 40 per cent. The statement made in Nos. 8. and 40. to this effect we have reason to know applies in numerous cases to districts the written returns from which fail to make mention of the fact. And what is said of this item of labour applies equally to others both in and out of crop time. (3) By reducing the amount paid for task and certain kinds of work, e.g., cane-hole digging, on properties which formerly paid 2*s.* and 2*s.* 6*d.* per hundred, is now on most properties brought down to 1*s.* 6*d.* and 1*s.* 3*d.*

We make these statements out of no want of sympathy with the difficulties of the planter, and impute no blame to him for his endeavour to reduce expenditure in the manufacture of an article the price of which is so precarious, and the returns from which at present prices are so small; but we wish to lay before your Excellency the actual condition of the labouring population of the country, that your Excellency may see the general truthfulness of the representations contained in Dr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Secretary, and to show not only how impossible it is for the peasantry to bear heavier burdens, but the imperative necessity there is for relieving them from some which are now pressing so heavily upon them. We are sure also your Excellency will see the necessity there is to devise some measures for encouraging and developing the industrial resources of the country, without which we feel it will be impossible to uphold those institutions which are essential to the preservation of order and progress, or even to preserve the social system from anarchy and confusion. We think also your Excellency will see the "unwisdom" of continuing to flood the Island with foreign labourers by schemes of immigration, while the market is already so manifestly overstocked by creole labourers.

10. The advanced price of food and clothing is too well known to your Excellency to need more than a brief reference. Schedule F., however, exhibits not only the wholesale but the retail prices, as paid by the labouring population. And your Excellency will see that not only have ground provisions increased in price, but there has been a great advance in the price of imported food, especially of some articles, whilst the price of clothing used by the people has been doubled and in some cases even trebled (see Nos. 8, 10, 37, 45.) In confirmation of our statements we have to beg your Excellency to compare with the prices quoted in the Schedule F. the official list of prices furnished by the Immigration Agent in 1858. He says, "The provisions and clothing which are in "general use among the labouring classes can be bought at the following prices:—

"Yams, per cwt.	4*s.* to 5*s.*	Cornmeal, per quart	3*d.* (2 for 4½*d.*)
"Cocoas ,,	3*s.* ,, 4*s.*	Salt Fish, per lb.	3*d.*
"Plantains, per 100	2*s.* ,, 3*s.*	,, Pork ,,	9*d.*
"Sweet potatoes, per cwt.	3*s.* ,, 4*s.*	Fresh ,, ,,	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
"Rice, per cwt.	18*s.* ,, 21*s.*	,, Beef ,,	4½*d.* to 6*d.*
"Flour, per quart	3*d.*	Herrings and Alewives	3*d.* for 4."

The increase which has taken place in the price of different articles has been greatly augmented by the Legislature allowing the ad valorem duty of 12½ per cent. to remain the same. And, as your Excellency as seen, the case has been aggravated to the industrial population by the reduction of wages which has simultaneously taken place; while drought has not only deprived them of profits from the cultivation of minor exports, such as coffee, ginger, and arrowroot, but the failure of ground provision crops has made them more dependant on imported food at the advanced prices.

The social aspects of this subject your Excellency will allow are by no means of secondary importance. The masses of the people have not yet advanced far in civilization. Their artificial wants are very few, whilst the climate is such as to induce habits of indolence. As long as the people could obtain certain comforts without extraordinary labour they sought after them, and were beginning to acquire a taste for them. But they cannot be obtained now without an amount of energy and labour foreign to their habits; many of them, becoming despondent, are also growing careless about the comforts they had began to gather around them. Thus multitudes are now content to dwell in huts which a few years they would have been ashamed to occupy. Their food is of an inferior description, whilst many are becoming accustomed to go about, as we have already shown, in a half-naked condition. Under similar influences, self-respect being lowered, marriage contracts are neglected, and an amount of immorality is spreading over the land most fearful to contemplate. People who, when they could dress with propriety, were in the habit of regularly attending public worship on the Lord's day, and of contributing cheerfully for religious services, and who were in the practice of sending their children to school, are now disregarding these duties, and permitting their offspring to grow up in ignorance that must be productive of the most serious evils. We know that taxes must be levied; but we venture to submit to your Excellency that they should be adjusted in such a community as that of this Island so as to foster and encourage, not so as to retard the progress of civilization. But the effect of placing heavy duties on the food and clothing of the labouring classes has been to check the improvement which, for some years after freedom, was going on.

11. From Schedule G. your Excellency will see that we have been desirous of obtaining information as to the agricultural operations of the peasantry apart from the estates. We regret, on many accounts, that the information obtained is not more complete. It will be seen, however, that land may be rented in nearly all the districts from which returns have been received. And it would probably surprise your Excellency that the labouring population do not avail themselves to a greater extent of this advantage to raise produce both for home consumption and for exportation.

No doubt within the last two or three years the small cultivator has been discouraged by the depretions of the idle and the vicious, by which he has been deprived of the fruits of his industry. But this is a discouragement which does not date far enough back to afford any sufficient explanation. We must look therefore for other causes. And we venture to suggest some for your Excellency's consideration.

Among these we may mention (1) the uncertain tenure on which rented land is mostly held. On very few properties can it be leased for a term of years, and consequently the small grower cannot risk the cultivation of produce which stands more than twelve months. Coffee, e.g., which takes three years to come into bearing, and trees of which yield an annual crop, he cannot plant, because he would have no hope of reaping the benefit. In most cases the tenant is subject to a six months' notice to quit; and not unfrequently no sooner has he planted off an acre, say of ground provisions, than such a notice is served upon him.

We also know of cases of hasty and illegal ejectment, through the caprice of the overseer or proprietor, when from ignorance or poverty the tenant has been unable to seek the redress which the law provides. (2) Another hindrance to the cultivation of rented lands is frequently their distance from the homes of the people. Their exposure to injury from the trespass of cattle is another. And under certain clauses introduced under the Petty Debt Bill, which we believe did not pass through "the Council," the tenant would find it still more difficult to obtain redress (Schedule C., No. 34, 45). (3) Your Excellency will allow us also to express the opinion that the general course of Island legislation, so far from tending to encourage has served to repress and check the industry and enterprise of the peasantry. We venture to submit that the future prosperity of the Colony largely depends on the encouragement and development of the industry and enterprise of the small cultivator. Instead of this, through the unwise policy of the Legislature and of the parochial authorities, the repair of roads and bridges leading to the settlements and grounds of the peasantry has been in many cases totally neglected, while heavy imposts have been laid upon horses and carts used by them solely for agricultural purposes. This repressive policy has been most baneful to their interests, and in no inconsiderable degree explains, in our judgment, the poverty and distress which seems rapidly advancing to the most alarming crisis (see Schedule C., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8, 15, 34, 36. Schedule H., Nos. 12, 66).

There is no denying that had the people more persevering energy of character they would, notwithstanding these discouragements, have accomplished more. But it must be considered that they are yet only in the incipient stages of civilization. We know that religion and education must be chiefly depended on for their advancement. But wise legislation may do much to encourage and develop their capabilities of improvement; and we earnestly commend the subject to the particular notice of your Excellency. It is also our opinion that if the subject of industrial and co-operative societies were taken up by persons in whose knowledge, judgment, and ability the peasantry place full confidence, notwithstanding the difficulties arising from suspiciousness and want of trustfulness in each other, they would be found willing to unite in them. And should the judgment of your Excellency concur with our own, we venture further to unite with Dr. Underhill in suggesting that the personal influence of your Excellency in favour of such associations would contribute in a high degree to promote the object.

12. Your Excellency has done us the honour to request our opinion as to the causes of the great increase of the crime, larceny.

That it has increased we deeply grieve to observe, and increased to a degree which, if unchecked, cannot fail to produce fearful results to society at large.

The fact is painfully attested by the crowded state of the penitentiaries and gaols. The returns submitted to your Excellency also point to the fact that the increase in this crime consists especially in the plunder of provision grounds, for the most part by young and able-bodied persons, who should be the sinews of society and the glory of the land.

We are not without difficulty in attempting to trace out the causes of this increasing evil; but we venture to suggest the following among probably a variety of others in operation:—(1) We may state it as our conviction that the depressed state of agriculture and commerce, the abandonment and partial cultivation of some estates, the small breadth of land cultivated by many of the settlers (see Schedule J., No. 8., Schedule H.), and the difficulty of getting remunerative employment (see Schedule K., No. 1., 6, 13, 16, 23, 31, 41, 55, 57) have contributed to bring about the evil lamented. Many young persons, who are wholly dependent on the money wages they can earn from week to week, who have no settled homestead, and who have not secured provision lands to cultivate, these being out of employment, or obtaining only an irregular supply of work, and having no other dependent means of subsisting, have formed indolent habits, and yielded to the temptation to plunder from their neighbours (Schedule J.) (2) The drought also, in some districts, during the greater part of two years, has painfully curtailed the ability of the peasantry to feed their children and dependent relatives.

This has driven numbers of young persons from their homes to seek subsistence (see Schedule J., No. 8, 11, 55). Failing to obtain it, they prey upon the property of others. Want and hunger do not justify dishonesty, but unless principle be very strong they will powerfully impel men to yield to temptation. (3) Nor can we omit to notice that there has been a gradual growth of a vagabond class in the community, from which the number of criminals has been swelled. Notwithstanding all the instruction which has been given, both in public and in private, many persons mournfully fail in the discharge of parental duties, and neglect to bring up their children in habits of obedience, industry, self-respect, and honesty.

Parents too often lose all proper control over their offspring at an early age. In numerous cases children forsake the parental roof at 11 or 12 years of age, and frequently find too ready a welcome in the yards of vicious neighbours, under the influence of whose bad advice and example they give way to a reckless, lawless, and roving disposition, become indolent and insolent, and in time are numbered among those who live chiefly by plunder (see Schedule J., No. 11, 23, 45, 48). (4) We have also, with deep sorrow, to avow our conviction that nothing tends more strongly to promote the increase of the crime under notice than the dishonest transactions of some of the educated members of the community, and the low tone of morals which we fear too generally prevails through all classes. When any of the richer classes pursue courses which no honest mind can approve, and when, among the poorer classes, stealing is regarded as a venial offence, the effect cannot but prove disastrous (see Schedule J., No. 8, 34). (5) We apprehend too, that the practice of compounding for the crime of stealing by the imposition of fines, or by the infliction of corporal punishment, on the part of private individuals, has

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had a baneful influence, tending to lessen the dread of legal prosecution, and ultimately swelling the number of convicts. Permitted to pay a fine for some theft committed on an estate, or allowing to choose a whipping by a person appointed by the individual injured, in preference to being sent to gaol, the offender has proceeded to other acts of dishonesty, until he has become an habitual thief. Schedule I., No. 8.)

(6) In conclusion your Excellency will allow us to state that we fear the treatment of convicts in the penitentiaries and gaols has contributed to lessen the terror of punishment, and to remove the restraints to stealing which that terror should create. The indulgent treatment, till very recently, in the prisons of the country, has had a pernicious effect. Many have returned to their friends to report the ease they have enjoyed, and the good fare with which they have been supplied.

Deeply grieved should we be to utter one word which could convey the impression that we desire to to see a system of cruelty or undue severity in the punishment of criminals. We should be the first to protest against inhumanity. But we fear the past liberal diet and nominal "hard labour" have lessened considerably the dread of being punished for the crime of stealing. And this effect has been increased, as we regret to know, by the manner in which the culprit is often welcomed back by his friends, being received and treated as an unfortunate, and not as a criminal.

The suggestions which we have ventured to offer for the consideration of your Excellency will, we hope, help to point out measures adapted to remedy an evil which is so debasing in its influence on the offender himself, and so injurious and destructive to the most important interests of society.

13. In doing ourselves the honour of complying with your Excellency's wish that we should make any observation which the subjects touched upon by Dr. Underhill's letter may suggest, we venture to add some remarks on taxes and laws. The views which have been reported to us on this subject your Excellency will find in Schedule K. (1.) And in the first place we beg to express our perfect agreement with Dr. Underhill as to the desirableness of a searching inquiry into the whole course of Island legislation since freedom. We are sure that nothing would more clearly explain the sources of many of the social evils we deplore, or better serve to prevent mistakes in the future legislation of the country, than such an investigation, fully and impartially conducted; and in the prosecution of such an inquiry we suggest that it should specially include an investigation into the causes of the failure of numerous enactments, and as to whether or not they have been adapted to the condition and circumstances of the inhabitants generally of the Colony; as, for example, the "Medical Bill," the "Registration of Births and Deaths Act," the "Capitation Tax," the tax on "Hereditaments," the more recent laws respecting "Parochial and Main Roads," and the late "Tramway" Act.

(2.) Your Excellency will observe, on reference to the Schedule (K.), how frequent are the complaints against the prejudicial working of the immigration enactments of the Legislature. The cost of these immigration schemes to the country your Excellency will find to have been enormous. We believe an examination of the official returns will show from 1834 to the present time it has not been much, if any, less than 400,000*l.**

We submit, therefore, that searching inquiry should be made into the working and results of a system which has proved so costly, and as to whether immigrant labour has proved cheaper even to the planter than that of the creole.

(3.) The schedules and former parts of this letter make repeated reference to the high rate of import duties on food and clothing chiefly used by the labouring population. We have also ventured to direct the particular attention of your Excellency to the great extent to which these duties enhance the price to the consumer. To show still more conclusively how these duties affect the peasantry of the country, we subjoin a statement kindly furnished to one of our number by an influential merchant, exhibiting the per-centage of import duty that each article pays, according to the present invoice rates of the different articles that are taxed:—

Flour, per barrel	30·20	Soap, per box	22·104
Cornmeal „	8·12	Butter, per firkin	14
Mackerel „	20·60	Lard „	11
Alewives „	14·20	Rice, 100	31
Herrings „	14·20	Tea, per lb.	60
Salt Fish, cwt.	22·32	Brandy, per gallon	120
Beef, barrel	25·0	Gin „	400
Pork „	19	Ale and Beer	50
Candles, Tallow,	12	Lucifer Matches	125
Sperm „	15	Goods unenumerated	12·05

We think on receiving this statement your Excellency will not fail to see the necessity of a re-adjustment of the import duties as at present imposed.

(4.) Laws relating to the elective franchise is another subject referred to in the Schedule (K). We do not wish on this occasion to express any opinion as to the extent to which the elective franchise should be exercised by the community of Jamaica; but there are some points in respect to it to which, with all submission, we beg your Excellency's attention. Since the year 1840 several alterations in the election laws have taken place, and we think repeated changes in this direction seriously detrimental. One of the last your Excellency knows was, that a person claiming a right to vote at elections, either for members of the Honourable House of Assembly or for parochial officers, should pay a registration fee of 10*s.* per annum. Your Excellency need not be reminded of the effect of this enactment. In 1861 the population of Jamaica was 441,264, yet in 1861 there were only 2,455 registered voters, and for 1862 there were only 2,022 to elect 47 members to represent the 22 parishes into which the Island is divided. In fact, under the Registration of Voters Act, many of the most intelligent men of the Island ceased to record their names as a matter of principle, conceiving that, possessing the necessary qualification, it was unjust to have to pay 10*s.* per annum for the exercise

* We are not just now able to ascertain the sums expended in 1851, 1852, 1853, 1860, 1862, and 1864.

of a political right considered by every true Briton the most valuable and sacred, and even now the registration fee has, we believe, been only partially abolished, so that while the franchise is professedly extended to every 6*l.* freeholder, those freeholders who do not pay 30*s.* in direct taxation are virtually and as we think unconstitutionally disfranchised.

(5.) Repeated reference has been made to the taxes on wheels, mules, horses, and horned stock. We shall only add here one brief statement for your Excellency's consideration. Complaints on this subject are made, not only on account of the amount paid, but on account of the marked distinction, to the prejudice of the small settler with his two or three acres of land, and in favour of the large proprietor. The small settler has to pay for his horse or mule 11*s.* and for his ass 3*s.* 6*d.*, while the working stock on the estate, steers, mules, and horned kind, are taxed only 6*d.* per head. The hardship of this will appear when it is considered that this tax is applied to the repair of roads which the estates' carts and cattle wear out much more than the carts and mules of the small settler, and further, that the planter has only to pay for carts, &c. that are employed for the conveyance of produce beyond the bounds of the property, although there may be a constant use of one, two, or three miles of road in the conveyance of manures, canes, &c. for the estates use.

(6.) Among minor yet important subjects for legislative consideration your Excellency will permit us to refer to the want of water provision for some populous districts, some more simple and less expensive method to the small settler for the conveyance of land, and an improvement in the present provision for protecting the community in the use of just weights and measures. The first is, we believe, not only a source of severe suffering in some, especially of the mountainous districts, but of serious demoralization, exhausting the time and labour of multitudes in having to journey for many miles to obtain this first necessary of life, and inducing habits of uncleanliness, besides an inducement to rob their neighbours who may be better furnished than themselves. (See Schedule B. No. 60.) The expensiveness of conveying lands is a great hindrance to the purchaser. The surveying, the titles, the stamps, and the recording often cost more than the original purchase; but if a new system could be adopted, such as by registration, the purchased land would be easily conveyed from one person to another. The Schedule on the operations of the peasantry (G.) refers repeatedly to the injustice suffered by the use of unjust weights and measures. We believe this is mainly because the law as it now stands is not enforced, but as the consequence the poor are suffering from the employment of weights and measures other than the legal standard.

(7.) We also take this opportunity of submitting to your Excellency that the absence of a practicable and wisely administered bastardy law is the cause of a vast amount of vagrancy, vice, and crime. The operation of such a law would, we are of opinion, prove a powerful check to the reckless sensuality which is now subverting social order and religious progress to an alarming extent. Such a law seems to us imperatively called for as a protection to the helpless offspring of illicit connexions from the heartless neglect of vicious parents, and as a protection to society at large from the physical, moral, and social evils consequent upon such children being cast upon the world without provision.

(8.) There is one subject your Excellency will see on reference to the Schedule (K.), not to mention which would be to fail to set forth the sentiments of those whom we represent, and which we, in common with them, hold to be of primary importance. We refer to the ecclesiastical expenditure of the Island. This we regard as a heavy burden, and considering to how large an extent the country is taxed to sustain it we are compelled to regard it as most oppressive to our people, who, as we have shown, are so ill able to bear it.

Your Excellency understands our principles as voluntaries, and knows that we conscientiously object to taxation for religious purposes, but this is not the ground on which, in this letter, we submit the subject to the consideration of your Excellency. We must always protest as a gross injustice against the imposition of taxes on those who dissent from the services of the church in support of which the imposition is made; but we humbly submit to your Excellency that the case as it stands in regard to the ecclesiastical expenditure of Jamaica is peculiarly obnoxious. In England, at the present time, we believe few, if any, taxes are imposed for ecclesiastical purposes, except church rates, which are direct, and self-imposed by a majority of parishioners in vestry assembled; but in Jamaica the ecclesiastical revenues are drawn out of the general taxes of the country, leaving no option of any kind either to individuals or communities. The course of Island legislation on the subject your Excellency will permit us to say has been peculiarly objectionable. After the Act of Emancipation had passed, one of the first proceedings of the Legislature was to relieve those who wished to avail themselves of the offices of the State paid clergy from the payment of fees which had heretofore been in force, and throw the burden on the general community. A Bill was accordingly passed, which provided that these fees which had been paid at marriages, christenings, and burials should cease, and that in lieu of them the clergy should be compensated by additional salaries. The compensation allowed to the rectors of the different parishes amounted, we believe, to no less a sum than 5,000*l.* per annum.

We have not been able to ascertain on official data the exact amount of the present annual grants of the House of Assembly for ecclesiastical purposes; but, on the authority of an Island newspaper, the proprietor of which is a member of the Honourable House, we believe the expenditure amounts to 45,000*l.* per annum. With humble submission to your Excellency, we venture to express the opinion that this is a burden too great for the country in its present prostrate condition to bear, and especially for the support of a religious establishment the adherents of which cannot, we think, be numbered at more than one-eighth of the population.

In closing this letter your Excellency will grant us permission to suggest the desirableness of some measure with a view to the appointment by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of a commission from home to inquire into the present state of the Colony, and to make a full investigation into all matters connected with its government since freedom, in every department, legislative, judicial, ecclesiastical, and fiscal, as well as to all other subjects on which Her Majesty's Government might consider it necessary to be informed. This we think, after the lapse of more than a quarter of a century from the year of complete emancipation, to be due to the British nation, which made so costly a sacrifice to

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purchase the liberty of an enslaved population; and we consider such a commission to be called for by the present condition of the Island, as the facts set forth in this letter will make evident to your Excellency.

We are aware that such a commission would be attended with a large expenditure; but having the fullest confidence that Her Majesty would appoint in it men of competent statesmanship and of enlarged experience, free from all party bias, who would consider, not the interests of a class, but the common weal of the whole Island, we are persuaded the results would abundantly compensate for the outlay. We should strongly cherish the expectation that such a commission would not only be instrumental in tracing out the causes of the evils which afflict us, but be able to suggest such remedies as might, by the blessing of the Most High God, restore prosperity to every class of Her Majesty's most loyal subjects in this land, "planter and peasant, European and creole."

Thanking your Excellency for the honour you have done us in allowing us thus to give expression to to our views, and with every sentiment of respect for your Excellency,

We are, Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servants,

G. R. HENDERSON, Chairman.
BENJAMIN MILLARD, Secretary.
D. J. EAST, President of Calabar Institution.
JOHN BLACK, Secretary of Calabar Institution.
1st May 1865. J. E. HENDERSON, Treasurer of Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society.
ELLIS FRAY, Secretary of Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society.
WALTER DENDY, Treasurer, Educational Society.
WILLIAM CLAYDON, Secretary to Sabbath Schools.

SCHEDULE A.

LOCALITIES REPORTED ON.

COUNTY.	PARISH.	TOWN OR STATION.	PASTOR.
CORNWALL	Trelawny	Falmouth	Rev. T. Lea.
		Bethtephil	„ G. R. Henderson.
		Hastings	
		Waldensia	„ J. Kingdon.
		Bunker's Hill	
		Rio Bueno	„ D. J. East.
		Refuge	„ E. Fray.
		Duncans	
		Stewart Town	„ W. M. Webb.
		Alps	„ P. O. Meally.
		Spring Garden	
	St. James's	Montego Bay	„ J. E. Henderson.
			„ J. Reid.
		Salters Hill	„ W. Dendy.
		Mount Carey	„ E. Hewett.
		Shortwood	„ J. Maxwell.
	Hanover	Lucea	„ W. Teal.
		Green Island	
		Sandy Bay	
		Mount Peto	„ C. Randall.
		Gurney Mount	
		Walford Hill	„ J. E. Henderson.
	Westmoreland	Savanna-la-Mar	„ J. Clarke.
		Fuller's Field	„ W. Burke.
		Bethel Town	„ E. Hewett.
	St. Elizabeth's	Black River	„ J. Barrett.
		Bethsalem	„ G. Milliner.
		Wallingford	
SURREY	Kingston	Kingston	„ E. Palmer.
	St. David's	Yallahs	
	Metcalf	Annotto Bay	„ S. Jones.
	St. George's	Buff Bay	
	Portland	Bethlehem	„ I. Porter.
		Boston	„ J. B. Service.
	St. Thomas-in-the-East	Belle Castle	„ H. B. Harris.
		Stoke's Hall	

COUNTY.	PARISH.	TOWN OR STATION.	PASTOR.
MIDDLESEX	St. Catherine's	Spanish Town	Rev. J. M. Phillippo.
	St. Dorothy's	Mount Merrick	
	St. John's	Point Hill	„ R. E. Watson.
		Mount Birrell	
	Vere	Hayes	
		Enon	„ A. Duckett.
	Clarendon	Four Paths	„ W. Claydon.
		The Cross	
		Elim	„ A. Duckett.
		Greenock	
		Thompson Town	„ W. Claydon.
		Mount Zion	„ F. Johnson.
		Stacey Ville	
		Paradise	„ R. Dalling.
	St. Thomas-in-the-Vale	Sligo Ville	„ J. M. Philippo.
		Mount Nebo	„ T. Gordon.
		Jericho	„ J. Hume.
	St. Mary's	Port Maria	
		Oracabessa	„ C. Sibley.
		Mount Angus	„ T. Smith.
	St. Ann's	St. Ann's Bay	
		Ocho Rios	„ B. Millard.
		Moneague	„ J. Gordon.
		Coultart Grove	„ J. J. Steele.
		Salem	
		Grateful Hill	„ J. Bennett.
		Brown's Town	
		Bethany	
		Tabernacle	„ I. Clark.
		Sturge Town	
		Clarksonville	„ F. Johnson.
	Manchester	Gibraltar	„ W. M. Webb.
		Porus	
		Mandeville	„ W. Claydon.

SCHEDULE B.

POVERTY AND DISTRESS.

1. FALMOUTH — *Thos. Lea.* — Among aged, sickly, and dependant. The people are less well off in everything. The largest retail provision dealer states that his sales are 50 per cent. less than they were; so that he has been compelled to countermand his standing orders to that extent.

2. WALDENSIA — *Jno. Kingdon.* — With few exceptions poor. Many cannot obtain food and clothing; some almost naked. Sick and aged especially destitute. Illustrations given in detail of particular cases. Most decidedly not so well off nor so well clad as formerly.

3. BETHTEPHIL and 4. HASTINGS. — *G. R. Henderson.* — Especially among the aged and sickly. Formerly the people built good houses, and took a pride in being nicely dressed, and most of them saved money, but now few good houses are built, and the people are not well clad.

5. STEWART TOWN and 6. GIBRALTAR. — *W. M. Webb.* — As a whole the people are not as well off as they were a few years ago. Much distress among the very aged; also among the young who are too lazy to work. They are less well clad than formerly.

7. RIO BUENO — *D. J. East.* — Numbers are very poor, and most are poorer than they were a few years ago. Not much absolute poverty, except among the aged and sickly. Distress among this class because the younger members of families are less able to support them than formerly. They are neither so well off nor so well clad as formerly, the signs of which are: 1, Children in greater numbers and at a more tender age are sent to work in the "piccaninny gangs;" 2. The decreased attendance of children at the day schools; 3. The falling off of religious contributions; 4. The numbers who stay away from public worship for want of decent clothing, or for the want of such clothing as they have been accustomed to wear; 5. The inferiority of the clothing which they are wearing at the present time. The people, as a whole, do not dress anything like so well as they used to do.

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8. REFUGE and 9. DUNCANS. *E. Fray.*

There is much poverty among the labouring population of this district, and much real distress among the females. They are not so well clad as formerly; they wear the commonest description of clothing, and many are in ragged clothes.

10. MONTEGO BAY and 11. WATFORD HILL. *J. E. Henderson.*

Especially among the aged and sickly; many of them formerly assisted by their relatives and friends who now find it out of their power to aid them. Even the able-bodied people, many of them, find it hard to live. There is much poverty, and it is daily increasing. Much real distress among the aged and infirm; the afflicted widows with young children. They are in want of the necessaries of life. The peasantry are decidedly worse off. I never knew them so poor. They are not clad so well as formerly. Indeed while at work many of them are half naked, though in the market and church their clothing is decent. It will not perhaps be far wrong, speaking of them as a whole, to say that they now come to church in clothing similar to that in which they used to labour, and work in old things in which formerly they would not have appeared out of doors. Many of the children are not clothed at all, and are therefore kept in doors and from school. The aged also are in many cases without decent clothing. A good many persons may be met with about the streets in a half-naked condition; but most of them are lazy, and ought to be taken charge of by the State, or they must eventually find their way to gaol.

J. Reid.

12. MOUNT CAREY and 13. BETHEL TOWN. *E. Hewett.*

Poverty universal and wide spread. Not absolute want of clothing, except among the aged, the sick, and a class of female coloured persons, who, once in better circumstances, are unfitted for manual labour. Among these three classes, hunger, nakedness, and the most distressing accompaniments of abject poverty are to be met with. The peasantry are by no means as well off as formerly. There is a remarkable difference in the clothes in which they appear in the house of God on Sabbath day. This is especially the case with the young, who are naturally fond of dress and personal display. Many persons are kept from church who used to attend regularly, because they cannot appear in what they consider suitable apparel, and such as they were once able to assume. Many children are kept from day and Sunday school from the same cause. Numbers of children are to be met with in the mountain districts in a state of nudity, or with a piece of ragged cloth hanging before them from their shoulders.

14. SHORTWOOD *J. Maxwell.*

There is much poverty in this district. Many are unable to meet necessary wants; many children are completely stunted through lack of proper and sufficient food. As a rule, those who labour on estates are poorer than those who depend on their own home cultivation. Distress, especially among the aged and infirm. The peasantry are decidedly less well off and less decently clad than formerly. There are many persons who at a certain period of the year cannot get food sufficient to sustain life, and many once well-to-do families have been reduced to a state of comparative poverty, and some to a condition of absolute poverty; for many are to be met with but half clad, and some grown up persons entirely naked. I have met boys and girls in a particular part of this district in a state of entire nudity; and the constant reports of our Sunday school visitors are, that as they go about the neighbourhood in pursuance of their duty they meet with persons on almost every hand in this sad and disgraceful state. And there are one or two cases reported by them in which a whole family, containing grown up sons and daughters, were found in this condition. The change in the appearance of the people is very plainly seen in our congregation on Sunday. Excepting a few young persons who at this season spend all they get in a showy dress or two, what most now wear bears no comparison with what they used to wear formerly. And there are some who cannot come so frequently to the house of God as they would like on account of not having sufficient and suitable clothing.

15. SALTERS HILL and MALDON. *W. Dendy.*

There is a general cry of poverty, in some cases of real distress, principally among the old, sick, and diseased, who cannot obtain the help they formerly had from relatives and friends. In the Maldon district the distress is not so great as in many other places, in consequence of its being favourably situated for seasons. The evidence of poverty is seen in the excuses made for non-attendance at places of worship and schools, being want of clothing.

16. LUCEA,
17. SANDY BAY,
18. GREEN ISLAND. *W. Teall.*

No returns; the pastor in England.

19. MOUNT PETO and 20. GURNEY'S MOUNT. *C. E. Randall.*

No returns.

21. SAVANNA-LA-MAR — *J. Clarke.* — Very much poverty among the old, the young, and widows with young children. Among these classes much distress. The peasantry are neither so well off nor so well clad as formerly. Rice bags form the covering of some. Young people are not ashamed of walking about naked. Men and women go to work in rags.

22. FULLER'S FIELD — *W. Burke.* — No returns.

23. BLACK RIVER — *J. Barrett.* — No returns.

24. BETHSALEM and WALLINGFORD. — *G. Milliner.* — No returns.

25. KINGSTON and YALLAHS. — *E. Palmer.* — No returns.

26. ANNOTTO BAY — *S. Jones.* — The distress and poverty among our people is considerable. The peasantry are less decently clad, some of them scarcely any clothing.

27. BUFF BAY and 28. BETHLEHEM. — *J. Porter.* — There is much poverty in this district. Individuals having small children are unable either to clothe them so as to send them to school, or to clothe themselves so as to attend the house of God themselves on sabbath day.

29. BOSTON — *J. Service.* — There is great distress and want; want of clothing, nakedness, and destitution. Mothers and fathers are crying and mourning that both themselves and their children are naked. Some of them are obliged to lock up their little ones in their houses because they are ashamed to allow them to walk about the streets. It is disgusting to see the state of some of the people and children here.

31. BELLO CASTLE and 32. STOKE'S HALL. — *H. B. Harris.* — Much poverty; great distress. Less well off; not generally less well clad, the people's generally besetting sin being love of dress and show.

33. SPANISH TOWN and 34. SLIGOVILLE. — *J. M. Phillippo.* — There is very great poverty, and that to a very considerable extent. Cases of real distress are very numerous. Their circumstances are far inferior to what they were three or four years ago. Their clothing is not so good either in quality or condition as formerly. As an evidence of this numbers a few years since possessed riding horses or breeding mares, draft horses and carts, mules, donkeys, and considerable quantities of small stock, which from different causes they do not possess at the present time. I think I am within the truth in saying that upwards of 100 of the labouring classes in this parish, who used to keep horses and carts, have been obliged to part with them, or to discontinue their use within the last two or three years. I have seen from 30 to 40 horses and carts frequently on the mission premises in Spanish Town on a sabbath day, by which whole families have been conveyed to the house of God and the sabbath school. Within the last two years they have been reduced to a third of that number. I refer in this statement more particularly to the Caymanas and Salt Pond part of the district. In relation to clothing, many of the people who once manifested a blameable fondness for dress are now in rags, while numbers are scarcely ever seen at a place of worship from insufficiency of really necessary apparel. Nearly one half of the congregation absent themselves from public worship from this cause alone.

35. MOUNT MERRICK, — A deal of poverty; some cases of real distress.

36. POINT HILL, and 37. MOUNT BIRRELL. — *R. E. Watson.* — No returns.

39. HAYES, 40. ENON, 41. THE CROSS, and 42. ELIM. — *A. Duckett.* — Poverty prevails distressingly in the parish of Vere, especially in the village of Hayes. It prevails much in Lower Clarendon in the districts of Gravel Hill and Cross. The distress among the peasantry, tradespeople, and seamstresses is to a pitiable extent. The people are less well off than formerly. Much used to be said of their comforts, liberality, and prospects. Many of the members of the church were better dressed than now. Many females lived decently by the needle, who are now in a starving state. Many of those once improving in religion and intelligence, and had been contemplating a better settlement for their family than the casual dependence on estates, are now unable to raise the means. Many are unable to educate their children because they cannot find daily food and clothing. The children who do come to school are more weakly than formerly. It has been the custom of dry goods sellers here to provide good dresses, &c. for Easter, August, and Christmas; now they meet no purchasers. Many of the children who come to school have only one suit. The appearance of some is shameful. Many of the people had carts and drays formerly working on the roads; they have them still; but they are rotting in their yards for want of employment, and on account of the heavy taxes.

Jamaica.	43. Four Paths, 44. Greenock, 45. Thompson Town, 46. Porus, and 47. Mandeville. *W. Claydon.*	Great poverty and distress; in many cases absolute want.
	48. Staceyville and 49. Paradise. *R. Dalling.*	I have been residing in this district twelve years, and never knew the times more severely felt by the labouring people than now. There is real distress. Some are meanly clad; indeed it is a common thing now to meet with grown up young men and women who are as good as naked, so as to shock the eye of decency. Great numbers of the people have to be eating their meals without fish of any kind, not having the means of procuring that article, especially as it is so very dear at present. This is the case with vast numbers living in adjoining districts.
	50. Port Maria and 51. Oracabessa. *C. Sibley.*	Pastor on his way to England.
	52. Mount Angus *T. Smith.*	There is much poverty among the labouring classes, and real distress. Generally the peasantry are not as well off as in former years, and are not so well clad. Many cannot come to chapel for want of clothes.
	53. St. Ann's Bay and 54. Ocho Rios. *B. Millard.*	There is much poverty, and much distress among the aged widows with families; a certain class who have been reduced to want by robberies in their provision grounds, and who are now unable to go out to labour; a class of coloured women unable to do out-door work; and some who are indolent and ever will be in distress. The peasantry are much worse off, and less decently clad than formerly. They have not money to purchase sufficient clothing. In the town there is much poverty and distress among coloured females, and females formerly dependant on slave hire, now having no subsistence; seamstresses, half-inch carpenters, and masons.
	55. Moneague and 56. Mount Nebo. *J. Gordon.*	Much poverty and distress, want of work, want of money, want of clothes. Some are naked.
	57. Coultart Grove. *J. Steele.*	No returns.
	58. Salem and 59. Grateful Hill. *J. Bennett.*	No returns.
	60. Brown's Town, 61. Bethany, and 62. Sturge Town. *J. Clark.*	There is much poverty and distress. More than I have known since emancipation. Until lately the peasantry in this district were among the most prosperous in the Island; they cultivated bread kind, coffee, pimento, and sugar. Some of them raised considerable quantities of small stock. They were accustomed to dress well. Their houses generally were good and substantial, and many of them well furnished. The greater part of them attended places of public worship. Their children were sent to day and Sabbath schools. The amount of crime was comparatively small, but during the last year they have suffered from want of clothing, scarcity of food, and other privations of poverty.
	63. Clarksonville and 64. Mount Zion. *F. Johnson.*	There is much poverty and distress. The people are neither so well off nor so well clad as formerly.
	65. Alps and 66. Spring Gardens. *P. O'Meally.*	There is an unusual amount of poverty. Numbers are so distressed as to have been unable to attend the house of God for many months for want of decent clothing, especially the aged and infirm.

SCHEDULE C.

Causes of the Poverty and Distress.

1. Falmouth. *T. Lea.*	1. Want of work. 2. Want of rain. 3. Want of industry on the part of some of the people. 4. Unreasonable demands in some instances as to work, and also unpunctual payments on the part of some of the planters. 5. High prices of and exorbitant duties on the articles which the poor consume.
2. Waldensia and 3. Bunker's Hill. *J. Kingdon.*	1. Want of work. 2. Want of energy and industry in some other way when estates fail them. 3. The destroying of provisions by estates' cattle and rats. 4. Irregular payment of wages, and the stopping of wages for the merest trifles, under pretext of damage done to the estates. 5. The keeping of shops on estates by the overseers for sale of all kinds of provisions, and in some cases of cloth, &c. This is one of the most pernicious evils existing in connexion with the estates in this district. 6. Want of rain. 7. Heavy taxes.

4. Bethlephil and 5. Hasting. *G. R. Henderson.*	Want of work, want of rain, want of industry, and in some cases want of punctual payments.
6. Stuart Town and 7. Gibraltar. *W. M. Webb.*	1. The partial cultivation of estates. 2. Lack of work on pens. 3. High prices of goods. 4. Poverty of rented land compared with the rent paid. 5. Waste of time. 6. Idleness. 7. Thieving, especially among the young.
8. Rio Bueno - - *D. J. East.*	1. The enormous increase in the price of clothing. 2. A considerable increase in the price of imported food. 3. The scarcity of ground provisions consequent upon successive drought. 4. Reduction in wages for the amount of work done. 5. The scarcity of employment. 6. Want of ability or disposition to turn their labour to other account when the estates fail them. 7. This is said to be especially the case with young lads, who will not seek land for cultivation when estate labour fails, but prefer to roam about in idleness.
9. Refuge and 10. Duncans. *E. Fray.*	1. Want of work. 2. Irregular payments. 3. Thoughtlessness and downright laziness on the part of many of the young people. 4. Irregular payments on estates have done much harm.
11. Montego Bay and 12. Watford Hill. *J. E. Henderson.*	1. Want of work. 2. Irregular payments. 3. Thoughtlessness and downright laziness on the part of many of the young people.
J. Reid.	1. High price and inferior texture of cotton stuffs. 2. The fall of the sugar markets. 3. Scantiness of the regular rains.
13. Mount Carey and 14. Bethel Town. *E. Hewett.*	1. Idleness, negligence, and the nature of the climate. 2. Enormously enhanced price of cotton goods.
15. Shortwood - - *J. Maxwell.*	1. Laziness, especially amongst the young, who do little or nothing during the six labouring days, and who seem quite content to get hold of anything to satisfy the demands of nature for the present moment, without any ambition to rise in comfort and respectability. This is evident from the disproportion between the population and the breadth of land under cultivation. 2. Failure in the fruitfulness of land purchased by the people. Many of them are hardworking, but their labour profits them comparatively little, as their small patches of land are exhausted by 10, 20, and more years' constant cultivation. 3. The difficulty of obtaining good land for rent. 4. The robbery of provision grounds during the last two years. I know some persons, members of this church, who were in pretty good circumstances, but have been reduced to beggary through the repeated plundering of their grounds. 5. The enormous price of clothing and of salt provisions. 6. Low price of ginger. 7. Want of thriftiness is striking fatally at the root of the people's prosperity. Very many of them spend what they get during the present season (ginger crop) in things they could do without for the mere sake of display, so that to the eye of a casual observer they would just now seem to be very well off, while from August to January they will be in the very depth of poverty. 8. The low rate of wages on the estates. 9. Bad pay; sometimes they are kept out of it for weeks and months, have to walk for it many times in rain, and sometimes on some pretext or other they are kept out of it altogether.
16. Salters Hill and 17. Maldon. *W. Dendy.*	
18. Lucea, 19. Sandy Bay, and 20. Green Island. *W. Teall.*	No returns.
21. Mount Peto and 22. Gurney's Mount. *C. E. Randall.*	No returns.
23. Savanna-la-Mar. *J. Clarke.*	1. Want of remunerative labour in many cases. 2. In some cases roguery in employment. 3. Laziness in many. 4. Want of looking forward and laying by for sickness. 5. Inability of others from old age and the effects of former usage.
24. Fuller's Field. *W. Burke.*	No returns.
25. Black River. *J. Barrett.*	No returns.
26. Bethsalem and 27. Wallingford. *G. Milliner.*	No returns.

Jamaica.	28. Kingston and 29. Yallahs. *E. Palmer.*	No returns.
	30. Annotto Bay - *S. Jones.*	1. Low rate of wages. 9. High price of clothing. 3. Successive droughts, so that the ground does not produce more than one half what it did in proportion to the amount planted. 4. High price of imported food.
	31. Buff Bay and 32. Bethlehem - *J. Porter.*	1. The unjust policy of the British Government. 2. Heavy taxation. 3. Want of employment.
	33. Boston - - *J. Service.*	The abandonment of the estates.
	34. Belle Castle, and 35. Stoke Hall. *H. B. Harris.*	1. In this district the continual trespass of cattle, for which there is no redress. 2. A want of proper and convenient roads to the provision grounds. 3. Disease in the cocoa plant. 4. Want of steady and remunrative employment.
	36. Spanish Town and 37. Sligoville. *J. M. Phillippo.*	The chief causes of distress in the highlands of the parish are:—1. Long prevalent epidemic sickness, measles, whooping cough, small-pox, and fevers of a malignant type. At one time excessive rain, since then droughts, and generally unpropitious seasons; the first rotting provisions, the second withering them. 2. Heavy taxes on the working stock of the peasantry. 3. Excessive dearness of important articles of food. 4. Want of employment. 5. Inadequate wages. In the lowlands the same causes have operated in an unusual and in some respects in a still greater degree. The people have suffered much from heavy imposts on their taxable property, particularly on their horses and carts. The owners were usually employed on adjacent properties four days a week, and used these on the Friday in conveying fruits and ground provision from their grounds, and on Saturday in conveying them to the Spanish Town or Kingston markets, In this way they materially added to their wages earned on the properties. and were not only in circumstances of comfort, but were stimulated to increased industrial habits. On the imposition of the exorbitant tax on their carts and horses the death blow was given to the commerce and resources and aspirations of these people. Having also to pay tolls and a considerable sum as market fees, in numerous cases they scarcely realized more than a shilling for their two days labour. They were thus obliged to discontinue their traffic, and with it the means of adding to their former scanty sources of support; and although the taxes on horses and carts have been reduced, and toll gates have been abolished, market fees are still high, and are sometimes capriciously collected. Moreover, these imposts have left their effects behind. The horses and carts of most of the people are gone, and with them, in most cases, all prospect of obtaining others. Most of them have been sold or levied upon for taxes. The confidence of the people in their representatives has been shaken by this mistaken policy, and a corresponding apathy has been created in their own minds.
	38. Mount Merrick, 39. Point Hill, and 40. Mount Birrell. *R. E. Watson.*	The flood last May, sweeping away much of what the people possessed, such as coffee, canes, ground provisions. 2. The droughts since. 3. High price of clothing. 4. High duties on imported food. 5. The low advantages which some shopkeepers take of some of the people by the use of short weights and measures, and by putting exorbitant profits on their goods. 6. Want of capital in the country.
	41. Hayes, 42. Enon, 43. Cross, and 44. Elim. *R. E. Watson.*	Heavy taxes on carts and mules used on the road. 2. Stores kept on sugar estates by overseers. 3. Reduced wages. 4. The impossibility of the labourer getting justice in courts of law in disputes respecting wages. 5. High rate of rented lands. 6. The partial employment afforded by the estates, the crops being over by May. 7. The practice of using larger pans for sugar boiling while the price per pan remains the same. 8. Importation of coolies and Africans. 9. The pride and laziness especially of the young people.
	45. Four Paths, 46. Greenoch, 47. Thompson Town, 48. Porus, and 49. Mandeville. *W. Claydon.*	Immediate causes are drought. 2. Increased value of all articles consumed by the peasantry and diminished wages. 3. But the primary causes I conceive to be idleness, social disorganization, uncertain tenure of land, and general improvidence of the people.
	50. Stacy Ville and 51. Paradise. *R. Dalling.*	No returns.
	52. Port Maria and 53 Oracabessa. *C. Sibley.*	Pastor absent from the Island.
	54. Mount Angus. *Thos Smith.*	1. Want of employment. 2. Low rate of wages. 3. High prices of food and clothing.

55. St. Ann's Bay, and 56. Ocho Rios. *B. Millard.*	Wretched policy of the Imperial Parliament in introducing slave-grown sugar on the same terms as free grown. 2. Bad seasons. 3. Ignorance of small produce growers in the cultivation of their lands, not manuring, &c. &c. 4. Low prices of chief articles of export,—pimento, logwood, arrowroot, and sugar. 5. Very high price of wearing apparel. 6. High import duties in proportion to the invoiced prices of food. 7. The possession of only small freehold lots of land, not affording the means of subsistence, and inducing habits of indolence. 8. The inability of some and the unwillingness of others to take care of their aged parents. 9. The want of a law compelling fathers to support their illegitimate children. 10. The indolence of many of the younger people. 11. Thefts of provision grounds. 12. The want of ability or willingness to raise articles of consumption or export on a large scale. 13. Want of proper poor laws. 14. Want of medical attendance on the poor and destitute, and available medical attendance on poor labourers.
57. Moneague and 58. Mount Nebo. *J. Gordon.*	1. Floods. 2. Droughts. 3. High price of food. 4. High price of clothing.
59. Coultart Grove. *J. Steele.*	No returns.
60. Brown's Town, 61. Bethany, and 62. Sturge Town. *J. Clark.*	1. The severe droughts of the last two years. 2. The failure of the coffee crops of 1863–4. 3. The small yield of pimento in 1864, and the low price it obtained. 4. The diminution of employment. 5. Above all, the failure of provision crops and the constant robberies which deprive the most industrious and careful people of the little food the seasons had spared. 6. The want of water, entailing great suffering, people having to travel many miles to obtain it for drinking and household purposes, there being neither river nor spring where they could obtain this necessary of life from Dry Harbour to the borders of Clarendon, a distance of 26 miles, and from Knapdale to River Head, a distance of 12 miles.
63. Salem and 64. Grateful Hill. *J. Bennett.*	No returns.
65. Clarksonville and 66. Mount Zion. *F. Johnson.*	The high price of all the necessaries of life.
67. Alps and 68. Spring Garden. *P. O'Meally.*	The high price of food and clothing, and the inferior quality of the latter, which renders it necessary to purchase so much the more frequently, or to go in rags and nakedness till it can be obtained.

SCHEDULE D.

Labour:—Supply and Demand.

1. Falmouth - *Thos. Lea.*	There is decidedly less employment than in former years. Many persons go from property to property unable to get work. Scores walk about the whole week. The number of creoles employed is much smaller, and on many estates the greater part of the work is done by immigrants.
2. Waldenisa and 3. Bunker's Hill. *J. Kingdon.*	Only a very small proportion of the people in this district can obtain work; many walk from 6 to 10 miles from their homes seeking employment, and fail to obtain it more frequently than they succeed. Coolies do the greater part of the work.
4. Bethlephil and 5. Hastings. *G. R. Henderson.*	There is decidedly less employment. Many persons wander about from property to property, and cannot obtain work. Many coolies are employed; fewer creoles.
6. Stewart Town and 7. Gibraltar. *W. M. Webb.*	Work is less easily obtained than formerly, from the very partial cultivation carried on on the estates of these districts. The properties employ just half the hands they did two or three years ago.
8. Rio Bueno. *D. J. East.*	A planter of the district says, "There is no less employment in seasonable "weather, but in severe dry weather like the present little or no work is "required in the cane fields." Another planter says, "Work is freely offered "but not easily obtained, owing to the increasing idleness of the creoles; "were it otherwise African immigrants would not have been sought and "obtained from Government on this estate." Another planter says, "At the "present time there is no difficulty in obtaining labour. The severe droughts "of the last two years have rendered the provision grounds of the labourers "less productive than usual, and they in consequence seek work." The labourers declare that on all the estates there are more hands than can obtain employment; that on a Monday morning, every week, from 10 to 20 are turned back from each, even in crop time, because there is not work for them to do; but in former years, on one estate in particular, the headmen

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had to go out to seek for labourers, whereas now there are more offering than are required; that on one estate even now in crop time the mill is allowed to work only four days a week; that after crop there is scarcely any work for able-bodied men to do; that this last state of things is consequent upon the increasing employment of "children's gangs," the location of indentured Africans and coolie immigrants, and the increase of population in the district.

One planter states that as many creoles are employed as formerly, even though coolie labourers have been introduced, but on this property cultivation has been extended. Another planter says, "There is a smaller "number of creoles employed now than formerly, but entirely through their "own idleness. On this and on the neighbouring estate there are 30 inden- "tured Africans."

9. REFUGE and
10. DUNCANS.
E. Fray.

Work is less easily obtained now than in former years, because the planters say they cannot employ more people; week after week people return without employment, and very few men are employed on the estates; the work is generally done by women and children.

11. MONTEGO BAY and
12. WATFORD HILL.
J. E. Henderson.

J. Reid.

It is now very difficult to obtain work, especially out of crop time. Hundreds of persons who apply for work on a Monday morning are sent away without being employed. Most certainly the number of creole labourers is smaller; the coolies do nearly all the light work on some properties. Work is much less easily obtained than in former years. The immediate cause no doubt is the fall in the price of sugar, the circumstance that the usual amount of canes was not planted during the past two years, and the scarcity of the periodical rains for some time. There are, however, remote causes, among which may be mentioned the throwing up of estates since freedom, and the importation of coolies, who are employed in preference to the native labourer. They employ a smaller number of creoles.

13. MOUNT CAREY and
14. BETHEL TOWN.
E. Hewett.

The labourer can only obtain work at certain seasons of the year, for but a few able-bodied men is there to be obtained regular and constant work, year in and year out, which has rendered it necessary for the labourer to regard his provision ground as of the first importance. The labour market is completely glutted, and members are turned away, even in crop time, for want of money to pay, or because there is not work for them to do. In one case the manager tries to give all his hands a little work, and a little money, so that he may keep his labourers about him. On three estates in this district there are coolies and Africans, whose labour displaces that of an equal number of the creole population.

15. SHORTWOOD.
J. Maxwell.

Very little work can be obtained, as there is only one sugar estate in the neighbourhood, and only one pen. Those who cultivate ginger on a more extensive scale than others employ labourers to aid them in peeling and curing, &c. Beyond this there is no work. Week after week persons go to and return from the estate near without being able to secure employment.

16. SALTER'S HILL and
17. MALDON.
W. Dendy.

Since "Freedom" sixteen out of twenty estates have been thrown up in this district, and employment has thereby been lessened.

18. LUCEA.
19. SANDY BAY,
20. GREEN ISLAND.
W. Teall.

Off the Island.

21. MOUNT PETO and
22. GURNEY'S MOUNT.

No returns.

23. SAVANNA-LA-MAR
J. Clarke.

Work is less easily obtained than formerly, from scarcity of money and the throwing up of so many properties. Africans and coolies take the places of the creoles to a great extent; about one half the labourers are of the former two classes. Contentions, cheatings, and lawsuits for wages have disgusted many of the creole labourers and driven them from the estates.

24. FULLER'S FIELD -
W. Burke.

No returns.

25. BLACK RIVER.
J. Barrett.

No returns.

26. BETHSALEM and
27. WALLINGFORD.
G. Milliner.

No returns.

28. KINGSTON and
29. YALLAHS.
E. Palmer.

No returns.

30. ANNOTTO BAY -
S. Jones.
31. BUFF BAY and
32. BETHLEHEM.
J. Porter.

There are fewer labourers employed on the properties than formerly. Work is less easily obtained now than formerly, because all the properties in the parish, with two exceptions, have been thrown up. On one of these the employment of Africans and coolies displaces the creole labourer.

33. BOSTON - *J. Service.*	There is no estate labour at all, there being only one estate in Portland, viz., Burlington, from which to Amity Hall in St. Thomas-in-the-East, there is a distance of 35 miles of land uncultivated. The people go even that distance to seek work.
34. BELLE CASTLE and 35. STOKES HALL. *H. B. Harris.*	Employment is not easily obtained now.
36. SPANISH TOWN, 37. SLIGOVILLE. *J. M. Phillippo.*	There is less employment than in former years, which is evidenced by the number of persons seeking it, and by incessant complaints of the want of work on the part of numbers willing to work. There are not more than about 30 or 40 Africans out of a population of 12,000, as by census of 1862, of whom 3,170 were registered as labourers, and 565 as planters or small settlers.
38. MOUNT MERRICK, 39. POINT HILL, and 40. MOUNT BIRRELL. *R. E. Watson.*	There is a great want of employment since the throwing up of the mines of this district.
41. HAYES, 42. ENON, 43. CROSS, 44. ELIM. *A. Duckett.*	Work is difficult to be obtained. Hundreds of the people are without employment. Creoles are not now employed in cane-cutting, weeding, planting, and watching. Formerly they did it all.
45. FOUR PATHS, 46. GREENOCK, 47. THOMPSON TOWN, 48. PORUS, and 49. MANDEVILLE. *W. Claydon.*	Work is much more difficult to obtain. Only Clarendon Park in this neighbourhood has been abandoned; but the crowds that flock from all parts of Manchester glut the labour market, and with coolie and Chinese immigrants render it very difficult to obtain labour.
50. STACEY VILLE and 51. PARADISE. *R. Dalling.*	Work is not very easily obtained. There are no estates in this district now kept up.
52. PORT MARIA and 53. ORACABESSA. *C. Sibley.*	Off the Island.
54. MOUNT ANGUS - *J. Smith.*	Work was more easily obtained in this district formerly than now, because so many properties have been thrown up, and because of the introduction of coolies and Africans.
55. ST. ANN'S BAY and 56. OCHO RIOS. *B. Millard.*	Work is less easily obtained from a variety of causes. 1. Failure in some years of the pimento crops, and the low price of the article prevents owners from cleaning walks, and some from picking. 2. Cattle being so low a price has prevented the planter from spending more than is absolutely necessary. 3. Some properties formerly in cultivation are nearly abandoned. 4. The two years drought has caused a less production of sugar. Thus on four estates in 1860 were made 635 hhds.; in 1861 only 561 hhds. 5. The reduced circumstances of families formerly wealthy prevent the employment of so large a number of dependants, as labourers, tradesmen, nurses, servants, seamstresses, &c. There are very few immigrants in this neighbourhood.
57. MONEAGUE and 58. MOUNT NEBO. *J. Gordon.*	Scores of able-bodied men cannot find employment. On Goshen and Gayle nearly all the labourers are foreigners. Other properties employ very few natives.
59. COULTART GROVE. *J. Steele.*	
60. SALEM and 61. GRATEFUL HILL. *J. Bennett.*	
62. BROWN'S TOWN, 63. BETHANY and 64. STURGE TOWN. *J. Clark.*	Large numbers of labourers are thrown out of employment from the partial abandonment of estates.
65. CLARKSONVILLE and 66. MOUNT ZION. *F. Johnson.*	It is difficult to get work, owing to the over stock of labourers seeking employment on the two estates here. The people come to them by hundreds from other parts of the parish. There are only creole labourers. All the properties in this district have been thrown up.
67. ALPS and 68. SPRING GARDEN. *P. O'Meally.*	All the properties in this district have been thrown up.

SCHEDULE E.

Wages.

	Cane-hole Digging.				Cleaning Canes.				Cutting Canes.				Planting Canes.				Cartmen.				Boiler Men.	
	Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.	
	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.
1. Falmouth	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d., 100.	–	–	9d.	2s. to 3s. 6d., acre.	–	–	–	9d., load.	–	–	–	3d. to 6d., 100.	–	–	9d. to 1s. 3d.	2d., load.	–	–	–	2d. to 3d., pan.
2. Waldensia et al.	1s.	1s. 6d. to 2s.	–	–	9d.	2s. 6d. to 3s.	–	–	–	1s., 24 chains.	–	1s., 24 chains.	–	6d.	–	–	–	2d. to 3d.	–	–	–	–
4. Bethtephil et al.	–	1s. 6d.	–	–	6d. to 1s.	3s. 6d. to 4s.	–	–	–	1s., 24 chains.	–	–	–	6d.	–	–	–	9d. to 1s. 6d.	–	–	–	3d.
6. Stewart Town et al.	–	1s. 6d.	–	–	–	3s. to 4s.	–	–	–	9d.	–	–	–	6d.	–	–	–	3d., 3 loads.	–	–	–	3d.
8. Rio Bueno	–	1s. 6d. to 2s.	–	2s.	6d. to 9d.	–	1s.	–	–	9d.	–	–	–	6d. to 9d.	–	1s.	–	2d. to 3d.	–	–	–	3d.
9. Duncans et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
11. Montego Bay	1s.	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	1s. 6d. to 2s.	–	–	1s., 24 chains.	–	–	–	1s. 3d., 24 chains.	–	–	–	6d., 120.	–	–	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	–	–	–	1½d., cyphon.
13. Mount Carey	–	1s. 6d.	–	2s. 6d.	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15. Shortwood	–	1s. 3d., 100.	–	2s.	–	1s., 24 chains.	–	1s. 6d.	–	1s., 18 chains.	–	1s. 6d.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3d., cyphon.
16. Salters Hill	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
18. Lucea et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
21. Mount Peto et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
23. Savanna-la-Mar	1s. 6d.	1s. 6d., 100.	2s.	2s., 100.	1s.	1s., 30 chains.	1s. 6d.	1s. 6d., 20 chains.	–	1s., bundle.	–	1s. 6d., bundle	–	1s., 30 chains.	–	2s. 6d.	–	3d., load.	–	–	3d., cyphon 6d. to 8d., da	
24. Fuller's Field	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25. Black River	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
26. Bethsalem	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
28. Kingston et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
30. Annotto Bay	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
31. Buff Bay	–	1s. 6d., 100.	–	2s., 100.	6d.	9d., 20 chains.	–	–	1s.	1s., 30 chains.	–	1s., 20 chains.	–	–	–	–	1s.	–	1s. 6d.	–	–	2d., pan.
33. Boston	–	1s., 200.	–	–	–	–	–	–	1s.	1s., 30 chains.	–	1s., 20 chains.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
34. Belle Castle	–	1s. 6d., 85.	–	–	–	9d. to 1s., 35 to 40 chains.	–	–	–	1s. 6d., 30 to 40 chains.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	9d. to 1s. 6d.	–	–	–	2d., pan.
36. Spanish Town et al.	–	–	–	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	–	3d., load.	–	–	–	–
38. Mount Merrick	9d. to 1s.	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	–	9d. to 1s.	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	–	9d. to 1s.	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	–	9d. to 1s.	–	1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

SCHEDULE E.

Wages.

Cutting.		Pulling Cocoa Nuts.				Pasture Cleaning.				Grass Cutting.				Pimento Picking.				Coffee Picking.				General Remarks.
Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly		Now.		Formerly		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		
Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	
–	–	–	6*d.*, 100.	–	–	–	Various.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2*s.* 3*d.*, barrel.	–	–	–	–	–	–	Wages have fallen off considerably, and task-work is not so well remunerated.
–	–	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*, acre.	–	–	–	3*d.*, load.	–	–	–	6*d.* to 1*s.*, bushel.	–	–	–	–	–	–	Labour is less remunerated than formerly. By the day, men 9*d.* to 1*s.*, women 6*d.* to 9*d.*, children 4½*d.*
–	–	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	–	–	–	–	–	–	Day wages greatly reduced. Adults get 9*d.* to 1*s.*, children 4½*d.* to 6*d.*
–	–	–	8*d.*	–	–	–	6*d.* to 1*s.*	–	–	–	4½*d.*	–	–	–	2*s.* 6*d.*	–	–	–	2*s.*, barrel.	–	–	Wages are 25 per cent. less than they were two years ago.
–	1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.*	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	1*s.* to 5*s.*	–	–	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	6*d.*, bushel	–	3*s.*, barrel.	–	–	–	–	There seems, as far as I can judge from a comparison of statements made by the planters on the one side and the labourers on the other, to have been for several years just a systematic effort to reduce the working expenses of the estates. This appears to have been accomplished in part by a reduction of of wages, but much more, (1) By reducing the day labour of men from 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.*, and of women from 1*s.* to 9*d.*; (2) By employing women and children in day labour; (3) By reducing the amount paid for tasks on certain kinds of work, *e.g.*, cane-hole digging used to be 2*s.*; it is now 1*s.* 6*d.* and 1*s.* 3*d.*; (4) By getting a larger amount of work done for the same amount. The labourers report that the cyphons or pans on one property have been so enlarged that whereas formerly they could make from 9 to 12 cyphons a day, they can now only make from 7 to 9; so that working the same hours and at the same nominal rate they cannot earn anything like so much money. They also say that the carts are required to be loaded half as full again as they used to be, and for this reason again so much cannot be earned. Labourers and overseers concur in stating that there is considerably less day labour and more task labour than formerly.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	6*d.*, 100.	–	–	–	1*s.* to 20*s.*, acre.	–	–	–	6*d.*	–	–	–	None.				None.			Wages have gradually declined for several years, and at the present lower than I ever knew them (Rev. J, E.H.). "I have been in the Island since 1837, and never knew them so low" (Rev. J. R.)
–	2*s.*	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	None.				None.			Wages on the estates have been reduced at least 25 per cent.
–	2*s.*	–	–	–	–	–	1*s.*6*d.*, acre.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	None.				None.			The ordinary rate of wages per day has varied much during the last few years. Skilled labour formerly obtaining 2*s.* to 4*s.* now never gets more than 2*s.*
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	2*s.*, cord.	–	4½*d.*, 100.	–	6*d.*, 100.	9*d.*	1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*	–	–	9*d.*	–	1*s.*	–	–	6*d.*, bushel	–	9*d.*, bushel	–	6*d.*, barrel.	–	–	Wages which were formerly 2*s.* are now 1*s.* 6*d.* Wages come down when sugar is low, and do not go up again with it. In the mountains 1*s.* per day *formerly* is now 9*d.*
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	The rate of wages has been lowered within the space of 10 or 15 years fully *one half*.
–	–	–	6*d.*, 100.	–	–	–	1*s.*6*d.*, acre.	–	–	1*s.* per week.		3*s.* 6*d.* per week.		–	–	–	–	Cotton picking, 12 lbs. for 1½*d.*				The rate of wages varies much; 1*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* formerly are now 1*s.* Women never get more than 9*d.* a day.
–	–	–	3*d.*, 100.	–	–	–	1*s.* to 2*s.*6*d.*, acre.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3*s.*, barrel.	–	–	–	–	–	–	There is nothing to do, except on one estate. 1*s.* 6*d.* and 2*s.* formerly are 1*s.* now as average for work.
–	–	–	6*d.*, 100.	–	–	–	2*s.* to 3*s.*, acre.	–	–	6*d.*, day.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6 lbs. for 1½*d.*				Men formerly 1*s.*6*d.*, now 9*d.* to 1*s.* Women formerly 1*s.*, now 6*d.* to 9*d.* Children 3*d.* to 4½*d.* per day.
–	–	–	–	–	–	1*s.* to 9*d.*	–	1*s.*, to 1*s.* 3*d.*	–	–	–	–	–	–	9*d.*, bushel	–	1*s.*, bushel	–	9*d.*, bushel	–	1*s.*, bushel	At present the rate is 1*s.* for an able-bodied male and 9*d.* for a female labourer per diem,
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	None.			–	–	–	–	The rate of wages is from 9*d.* to 1*s.* Want of employment is greater than variation of wages.

	Cane-hole Digging.				Cleaning Canes.				Cutting Canes.				Planting Canes.				Cartmen.				Boiler Men,	
	Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.	
	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.
41. Hayes et al.	–	1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d., 100.	–	2s. 6d. to 3s., 100.	4½d. to 1s.	–	–	–	–	1s., 40 chains.	–	–	4½d. to 1s.	–	–	–	–	1s., 12 loads.	–	–	–	3d., pan.
45. Four Paths et al.	–	1s. 6d., 100.	–	2s. 6d., 100.	4½d.	–	1s.	–	1s. 3d.	–	2s. 6d.	–	4½d.	–	9d.	–	1s.	–	1s.	–	1s.	–
50. Stacy Ville et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
52. Port Maria	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
54. Mount Angus	1s.	2s., 100.	–	–	1s.	1s., 25 chains.	–	–	1s.	1s., 30 chains.	–	–	1s.	6d., 26 chains.	–	–	9d.	–	–	–	–	2d., pan.
55. St. Ann's Bay et al.	–	2s. 6d., 100.	–	–	1s.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1s.	–	–	–	1s. 6d.	3d., turn.	–	–	1s. 6d.	3d., cyphon.
57. Moneague	–	1s., 100.	–	–	–	1s., 18 chains.	–	–	–	1s., 18 chains.	–	–	–	1s., 25 chains.	–	–	1s.	–	–	–	–	8d., pan.
59. Coultart Grove	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
60. Brown's Town et al.	–	2s. to 2s. 6d., 100.	–	–	–	5s. to 10s., acre.	–	–	–	1s., cord.	–	–	–	9d., 100.	–	–	1s. 3d.	–	–	–	9s. per week.	
63. Salem et al.	–	–	–	–	6d., children.	–	–	–	–	9d., cord.	–	–	–	1s., 100.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3d., load.
65. Clarksonville	–	2s. 6d., 100.	–	3s., 100.	–	8s., acre.	–	14s., acre.	–	–	–	–	–	9d., 100.	–	–	1s. 6d.	–	–	–	–	
67. Alps et al.	–	1s. 6d., 100.	–	2s. 6d., 100.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
69. Jericho et al.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

SCHEDULE F.

Advanced Price of Clothing and Food.

1. Falmouth — *T. Lea.* — Most articles of imported food are dearer. Clothing has doubled and in some cases trebled in value, but the ad valorem duty has remained at 12½ per cent., thereby making it virtually upwards of 30 per cent. upon the same quantity of clothing.

2. Waldensia,
3. Bunker's Hill,
J. Kingdon.

Imported food is sold at greatly advanced prices compared with former years.

4. Bethtephil and
5. Hastings.
G. R. Henderson.

Pork, mackerel, salt fish, beef, butter, corn-meal, and herrings are all dearer.

6. Stewart Town,
7. Gibraltar.
W. M. Well.

Imported food is dearer now than in former years. Ground provisions are unusually high.

8. Rio Bueno — *D. J. East.* — The retail price of clothing has increased as follows:—
Osnaburgh used to be 4½*d.* to 6*d.*, now 7½*d.* to 9*d.*
Blue coating used to be 3*d.* to 4½*d.*, now 7½*d.* to 1*s.*
Calico used to be 3*d.*, now 7½*d.*
Calico, long cloth, used to be 6*d.* to 7½*d.*, now 1*s.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Prints used to be 4½*d.* to 6*d.*, now 9*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*
Common rug used to be 2*s.*, now 3*s.*
Handkerchiefs used to be 9*d.*, now 1*s.* 3*d.*

Cutting.		Pulling Cocoa Nuts.				Pasture Cleaning.				Grass Cutting.				Pimento Picking.				Coffee Picking.				General Remarks.
Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly		Now.		Formerly		Now.		Formerly.		Now.		Formerly.		
Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	Day.	Task.	
–	1s. to 1s. 3d., cord.	–	3d., 100.	–	–	–	1s. to 4s., acre.	–	–	–	2d., load.	–	–	–	–	–	–	None.				The wages of the people cannot feed and clothe them. 1s. to 1s. 6d. formerly, 3d. to 1s. 3d. now.
–	1s. 6d., cord.	–	–	–	–	–	1s. 6d., acre.	–	–	1s. 3d.	–	2s. 6d.	–	–	–	–	–	–	2s., barrel.	–	3s. 6d., barrel.	The rate of wages is very irregular; from 25 to 50 per cent. less than in former years. It is not so much the rate as the class of labourers employed. Men who must have 1s. 6d. per day once are glad to get 1s. 3d. now.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	Formerly a labourer received 1s. per day; now 9d. to 6d., in some cases 4½d.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
–	–	–	6d., 100.	–	–	–	1s. 6d. to 2s., acre.	–	–	4½d.	–	–	–	–	2s., barrel.	–	–	–	2s., barrel.	–	–	Formerly a strong man got 1s. 6d. to 2s., a woman 1s. to 9d.; now a man gets 1s. per day, and a woman 2s. 6d. to 3s. per week. I know of women working ten days for 2s. 9d
–	–	–	3d. to 9d., 100.	–	–	–	From 4½d., acre.	–	–	1s.	–	–	–	–	2s. to 2s. 6d., barrel.	–	–	–	–	–	–	Day wages generally are the same as a few years ago, viz., 1s. per day. Picknie gangs 9d. and 6d. a day. Women get 9d. I find the rate of wages on estates generally is the same as in former years, save cane cutting, which is 25 per cent. less. Pen-work is reduced. Wall-building is 50 per cent. less. Pasture cleaning 50 per cent., and pimento picking 25 to 50 per cent. less.
–	–	–	6d., 100.	–	–	–	9d. to 1s., acre.	–	–	–	1½d., load.	–	–	–	1s. 6d., barrel.	–	–	–	9d., bushel	–	–	In 1839 2s. a day equals 6d. in 1865. Day wages formerly 1s. to 2s., now 6d. generally.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	From 1s., acre.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2s. to 2s. 6d., barrel.	–	3s. to 5s., barrel.	–	2s., barrel.	–	2s., barrel.	The people say that wages both for job and day work are from one fourth to one third less (with the exception of coffee picking, which is the same or more,) than formerly. Planters say little or no alteration has taken place for many years, save for pimento picking. I find some estates pay more for certain work (cane-hole digging, &c.) than others.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1s. 6d., acre.	–	–	–	6d., load.	–	–	–	1s. 9d., barrel.	–	–	–	–	–	–	Wages formerly 1s. to 1s. 6d., now 9d. daily, when labour is required.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4s. 6d., acre.	–	–	1s.	–	–	–	–	2s. 6d., barrel.	–	–	–	2s., barrel.	–	–	Not much variation in the rate of wages now and formerly.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1s. 6d., barrel.	–	2s. 6d., barrel.	–	2s.	–	–	The people seldom go out to labour, as each has a field of his own. Wages are less now than formerly.
–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	The estates seem to employ about the usual number of labourers, and to pay the same rate of wages as they have done for several years.

9. Refuge,
10. Duncans.
E. Fray.

Nor are goods sold at the advanced prices anything like so good and durable as those formerly sold at the lower rates.

The advance in the retail price of food is as follows:—

Codfish used to be 3*d.* per lb., now 4*d.*
Pork in 1863 used to be 6*d.* per lb., now 9*d.*
Meal used to be 3*d.* per quart, now 4*d.*
Flour used to be 3*d.* per quart, now 4½*d.*
B. E. Peas used to be 4*d.* per quart, now 6*d.*
Herrings used to be for three 1½*d.* to 2*d.*, now 1*d.* to 1½*d.* for one.

Ground provisions in this district vary greatly at different seasons. Average price 10*s.* It sometimes goes up to 16*s.*

11. Montego Bay and
12. Watford Hill.
J. E. Henderson.

Clothing of all sorts has increased in price. This evil has been greatly augmented by the Government allowing the ad valorem duty of 12½ per cent. to remain, thereby virtually placing a tax of upwards of 30 per cent. upon all articles of apparel. Ground provisions are now about the same as they have been for the last ten years. Imported food is dearer. The prices of ground provision have risen and fallen in past years, and are now about the same as formerly.

13. Mount Carey,
14. Bethel Town.
E. Hewett.

Cotton goods are commonly enhanced in price. Articles of the flimsiest description, and most unendurable, are only to be obtained at double the charges made before the American war. The commonest Osnaburgh selling at 4½*d.* then now sells at 9*d.* per yard. Calicoes formerly at 6*d.* now at 1*s.* Prints formerly 6*d.* now 1*s.*, and this for the common fabrics. Ground provisions are dearer than they were in this district, and from the want of rain, and the destruction of the provision grounds by the thief, they are likely to be much dearer. I live in the midst of a large provision district, and hear constantly of the present and prospective dearth of provisions. Almost all imported provisions are high in price. The exact

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	difference between the present and former price I cannot state, but they are at least 25 per cent. dearer than they were. Cornmeal could be formerly bought at 20*s.* per barrel; now it is from 28*s.* to 32*s.*; and other salted provisions in like proportion. The enhanced cost and duties have interfered with both the importation and consumption of provisions.
15. SHORTWOOD - *J. Maxwell.*	The price of all sorts of provision here has greatly increased during the last few years, and is now unusually high. At present salt fish is going at 6*d.* per lb., pork 1*s.* per lb., flour 3*d.* per pint. Since my residence here (three or four years ago) the first was selling at 4½*d.*, the second at 9*d.*
16. SALTERS HILL and 17. MALDON. *W. Dendy.*	
18. LUCEA, 19. SANDY BAY, and 20. GREEN ISLAND. *W. Teall.*	Off the Island.
21. MOUNT PETO, 22. GURNEYS MOUNT. *C. E. Randall.*	
23. SAVANNA-LA-MAR. *J. Clarke.*	Ground provisions vary at different seasons of the year. From April to August they are high; then lower. There is no great difference in prices compared with former years in this parish. Imported food is far dearer than it was.
24. FULLERS FIELD - *W. Burke.*	No returns.
25. BLACK RIVER - *J. Barrett.*	The price of ground provisions has risen very much, and is very high now.
26. BETHSALEM, 27. WALLINGFORD. *G. Milliner.*	
28. KINGSTON and 29. YALLAHS. *E. Palmer.*	No returns.
30. ANNOTTO BAY - *S. Jones.*	Imported food, such as salt fish, herrings, mackerel, and shads, have doubled in price.
31. BUFF BAY and 32. BETHLEHEM. *J. Porter.*	The price of ground provisions is not unusually high. Imported food is very dear; a great deal dearer than formerly. Salt fish formerly sold at from 12*s.* to 14*s.* per 100 lbs.; now the price is from 26*s.* to 28*s.* per 100 lbs. Herrings, formerly 14*s.* to 16*s.*, now from 34*s.* to 50*s.* Mackerel, formerly 18*s.* to 20*s.*, now from 40*s.* to 46*s.* Clothing is much dearer.
33. BOSTON - *J. Service.*	Provision grounds in consequence of the drought do not yield. Some speak of a disease in the land, which rots all the provision before it comes to perfection. Imported provision is dearer; formerly fish was 3*d.* per lb., now it is 6*d.*
34. BELLE CASTLE and 35. STOKES HALL. *H. B. Harris.*	Ground provision has risen greatly in price; it is now unusually high; can scarcely be obtained. Imported food dearer; formerly salt fish was 3*d.* per lb., now 6*d.* Herrings, formerly from 5 to 6 for 3*d.*, now sold at 3*d.* per herring. Cornmeal formerly 3*d.* per quart, now 4½*d.* to 6*d.* Wheat flour formerly 4½*d.*, now 7½*d.* to 9*d.*
36. SPANISH TOWN, 37. SLIGOVILLE. *J. M. Phillippo.*	The price of ground provisions has always fluctuated with the seasons from 6*s.* to 7*s.* and 7*s.* to 8*s.* per cwt. It is now 12*s.* per cwt. Cocoas, once 10*s.* per cwt., are now 14*s.* and upwards. The difference in the prices of imported food is as follows; information which I have obtained from a number of the more intelligent of the poorer classes:— Salt fish, formerly 3*d.*, now 6*d.* Salmon, formerly 7½*d.*, now 9*d.* Flour, formerly 3*d.*, now 6*d.* Rice, formerly 4½*d.*, now 7½*d.* Herrings, formerly 4 for 3*d.*, now 2 for 3*d.* Shad, formerly 4 for 3*d.*, now 2 for 3*d.* Mackerel, formerly 2 for 3*d.*, now 3 for 1. Salt pork, formerly 6*d.*, now 9*d.* Salt Beef, formerly 4½*d.*, now 6*d.* to 10½*d.* Clothing, such as calicoes, is not only higher in price, but the width is less. It is understood that almost all imported articles of food and the most indispensable articles of dress have lately risen from 30 to 40 or 50 per cent.
38. MOUNT MERRICK, 39. POINT HILL, 40. MOUNT BIRRELL. *R. E. Watson.*	Imported food is dearer than formerly. (Same prices quoted as foregoing.)

41. Hayes, 42. Enon, 43. Cross, 44. Elino. *A. Duckett.*	Ground provisions are unusually high.
45. Four Paths, 46. Greenock, 47. Thompson Town, 48. Porus, 49. Mandeville. *W. Claydon.*	Ground provisions are about 50 per cent. higher; they are at fabulous prices. Imported food, flour, rice, fish; all kinds, from 50 to 75 per cent. dearer.
50. Staceyville and 51. Paradise. *R. Dalling.*	Ground provisions not being so plentiful now as a few years ago, the price has necessarily risen. Imported goods are dearer. Calico, formerly 4½*d.* yard, now 1*s.* Fish, formerly 3*d.* lb., now 6*d.* lb.
54. Mount Angus - *T. Smith.*	The price of ground provisions is unusually high. Imported food is dearer, also clothing.
55. St. Ann's Bay, 56. Ocho Rios. *B. Millard.*	In consequence of the drought, ground provisions have at times been at famine prices. During the last two years they have been much higher than usual. This has borne severely on the people, as in consequence of the droughts, instead of having to sell, they have had to buy from distant places, or they have had to live on "American Bread Stuffs." Generally imported food is not dearer. Flour is pretty much the same as before; rice is 1½*d.* and 3*d.* dearer per quart. Salt fish, owing to a failure in the fisheries, is very high, and salt pork has also risen.
57. Moneague, 58. Mount Nebo. *J. Gordon.* 59. Coultart Grove. *J. Steele.*	Ground provisions have not risen. Imported goods are half as much again.
60. Brown's Town, 61. Bethany, 62. Sturge Town. *J. Clark.*	Ground provisions during the latter part of last year were sold for more than double their average price. So scarce were they that we should have had a famine but for supplies from Clarendon and elsewhere. At the beginning of this year small quantities were obtained in the neighbourhood, and prices went down; now the supply is falling short, and prices are again advancing. The high import duties, and occasional fluctuations in the market, greatly enhance the price of imported food, such as flour, salt fish, &c.
63. Salem and 64. Grateful Hill. *J. Bennett.*	A few months ago ground provisions were higher, but they are not now.
65. Clarksonville, 66. Mount Zion. *F. Johnson.*	Ground provisions are rather high now. All kinds of imported goods are dearer.
67. Alps and 68. Spring Gardens. *P. O. Mealy.*	These are plentiful times; but ground provisions will soon be very scarce. Imported food is much dearer than formerly. Salt fish, formerly 3*d.* per lb., now 4½*d.* to 6*d.*

SCHEDULE G.

Industrial Occupations, &c. of the Peasantry apart from the Estates; Rented Lands, Productions, Exports, &c.

1. Falmouth - *Thos. Lea.*	1. Where estates have mountain lands they can generally be rented at an average rental of 20*s.* per acre. The land on one estate of this district is rented at 2*l.* 8*s.* per acre per annum. Nearly all lands rented by the people are at very long distances from the places at which they live and work. 2. Very little produce is raised in this district for exportation. The disadvantages under which the peasantry labour in raising and exporting produce are: (a.) Want of proper machinery. (b.) Low prices realized from the merchants, and loss incurred by being often impelled to take goods instead of cash, merchants in some cases entering into compacts not to give above a certain price. (c.) Chiefly the roads are often in such a state as to render the transport of produce to the seaports very troublesome, expensive, and sometimes impossible. 3. I (the pastor) do not think the people at present have sufficient confidence in each other or in their advisers for the formation of joint stock companies for raising and exporting produce. A few persons think such associations might be formed.
2. Waldensia and 3. Bunker's Hill. *J. Kingdon.*	1. Land may be rented on most of the estates in this district at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre. 2. Very little is raised in this district for exportation, except it may be a little sugar. 3. Many of the labourers say they are prepar e to combine for mutual assistance.

Jamaica.	4. Bethlephil and 5. Hastings. *G. R. Henderson.*	1. Where mountains are connected with estates land may be rented at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre per annum, but this is generally a long distance from the residences of the people. 2. The only exports are sugar and pimento. Owing to combination among the merchants the people often fail to get a good price. 3. They have not sufficient confidence in each other to form co-operative associations.
	6. Stewart Town and 7. Gibraltar. *W. M. Webb.*	1. The people in my district can obtain inferior land to rent from Woodstock, Arcadia Mountain, Dornock Pen, and from Bideford and Hopewell estates, at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre. 2. They export a little pimento and coffee. 3. The people are too suspicious to form co-operative associations.
	8. Rio Bueno *D. J. East.*	1. Land at from 16*s.* to 24*s.* may be rented at Bengal; but the owner reports that the rent is obtained with difficulty, and in some instances is altogether evaded. Land is also rented on several small properties, but on these it is becoming rapidly exhausted. Bryan Castle estate allows the people to work provision grounds without charge. 2. In this district the peasantry raise a very limited supply of ground provisions for their own consumption or for the market. Some also produce sugar and tobacco, but not for export. The only exports are pimento and dye woods in very small quantities. Their disadvantages in exporting would be those of small producers in competition with large ones, and of the ignorant in trading with "knowing ones," who happen to be unprincipled. 3. They would gladly unite in an industrial society for the exhibition of produce, but I question whether they would be prepared to form co-operative associations.
	9. Refuge and 10. Duncans. *E. Fray.*	
	11. Montego Bay and 12. Watford Hill. *J. E. Henderson.*	1. Land may be rented at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre. 2. A few manufacture sugar, and find a ready sale, but not at remunerative prices. I think the merchants at Montego Bay give a fair price for what they buy. A little more competition would be beneficial to the seller. They are cheated by false weights used by a class of persons who go into the country districts to buy produce. These persons would meet with but little encouragement did the state of the roads allow the labourer to bring his own produce to market. Most of the roads which lead to the settlements of the peasantry are utterly neglected, and are in a most disgraceful condition. Government has thrown every hindrance in the way of the small settler, (1) by neglecting roads; (2) by taxing his wheels and working stock. 3. I do not think they would form co-operative societies, as they have so little confidence in each other.
	J. Reid.	
	13. Mount Carey and 14. Bethel Town. *E. Hewett.*	1. In the Mount Carey district in the parish of St. James the people either work on the estates or grow the cane and make sugar, and also attend to the cultivation of ground provisions. In Bethel Town district in the mountains of Westmoreland and Hanover there are no sugar estates, and the people, living on their own or rented lands, cultivate ground provisions, arrowroot and ginger, in large quantities. The two latter articles are largely exported. The manufacture of sugar I do not think profitable. It is always hazardous, involves great manual labour, and frequently fetches very low prices. Besides, the machinery of the peasantry cannot compete with that of the large planter. Ginger is largely cultivated in the mountains of St. James and Westmoreland, and mostly sold to merchants at Montego Bay, Savanna-la-Mar, Lucea, and Black River. Agents are employed by merchants during the ginger season, and are to be met with in almost every nook and corner, in little shops, in which to barter and exchange. In some instances the growers are subjected to extortion and robbery through false weights and measures; but this is every year becoming more difficult as intelligence increases and education advances. Both ginger and sugar are very much reduced in price, compared with the former rate. Formerly sugar realized at Montego Bay from 48*s.* to 56*s.* per barrel; now it only realizes 28*s.* to 32*s.* per barrel. Ginger formerly fetched from 4½*d.* to 9*d.* per lb.; now it is from 2*d.* to 6*d.* Arrowroot formerly brought from 6½*d.* to 7½*d.* per lb.; now it is only 3*d.* to 4½*d.* There can be no doubt the producers of these articles labour under disadvantage, because the middle man pockets a portion of the profits. A producer sells a barrel of ginger at 42*s.* per cwt. in Jamaica. Could he send it to Europe direct, after the payment of freight and duties, it would bring him from 50*s.* to 60*s.*; a large difference to a poor man having only a few barrels to dispose of. But the great difficulty with the peasantry in direct exportation is that they cannot wait for a return of sale and proceeds, involving a delay of six months before they get their money. If anything could be done to remove this difficulty it would be a great boon. There are numbers of persons in these mountains who have for some years combined their produce for shipment to England, and who have been materially benefited thereby. Associations of this kind should be encouraged; but great care is necessary to prevent misunderstanding and consequent destruction of confidence. The people are

suspicious of each other, and not generally prepared for co-operative associations; yet the effort should be made to organize industrial societies, and if conducted simply, and managed by those in whom the people have confidence, would, I hope, succeed.

15. SHORTWOOD - *J. Maxwell.* — The following are the properties in this district on most of which land has been sold out, or is rented to the peasantry; Richmond Hill, Retrieve, Duckett's Spring, Catadupa, Lapland, Belfont, Chesterfield, New Battle, Plum, Mountain Spring. The rent varies from 16*s.* to 24*s.* an acre. On some the cattle commit great depredations, from which tenants obtain no redress. Large tracts of these properties are lying uncultivated in any way. 2. The people grow ginger and ground provisions; the former is the only article of export. 3. I do not think our people are prepared to form co-operative societies. They lack confidence in each other.

16. SALTER'S HILL and
17. MALDON.
W. Dendy.

18. LUCEA,
19. SANDY BAY,
20. GREEN ISLAND.
W. Teall. — Off the Island.

21. MOUNT PETO and
22. GURNEY'S MOUNT.
C. E. Randall. — No returns.

23. SAVANNA-LA-MAR.
J. Clarke. — 1. Land may be rented on numerous properties at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre. 2. The people raise ginger, coffee, arrowroot, pimento, sugar, ground provisions. 3. They are not prepared to form co-operative and industrial associations. They have no confidence in each other, nor in merchants. Confidence has often been severely shaken, and is now destroyed.

24. FULLER'S FIELD -
W. Burke.

25. BLACK RIVER -
J. Barrett.

26. BETHSALEM and
27. WALLINGFORD.
G. Milliner. — No returns.

28. KINGSTON and
29. YALLAHS.
E. Palmer. — No returns.

30. ANNOTTO BAY - *S. Jones.* — All the properties rent land at from 20*s.* to 28*s.* per acre to whatever extent the tenant can cultivate. 2. The people here raise ground provisions, sugar and coffee and chocolate for home consumption, and to some extent for export. 3. We fear they would not be prepared to form industrial and co-operative societies for want of sufficient confidence in each other.

31. BUFF BAY and
32. BETHLEHEM.
J. Porter. — 1. Land may be rented for provision grounds on any property in the parish (Portland). Lands are rented, with and without houses; with at from 36*s.* to 48*s.* per acre; without from 16*s.* to 18*s.* 2. The produce raised consists of ground provisions and sugar, but there are no exports. 3. As far as I have been able to ascertain, the people are willing to sustain co-operative societies.

33. BOSTON.
J. Service. — 1. Land may be rented on all the thrown-up properties at from 20*s.* to 24*s.* per acre; but from the want of money not many can rent. 2. They raise ground provisions, arrowroot, cocoa nuts, and pimento. 3. If aided and instructed they would make the trial of co-operative associations.

34. BELLE CASTLE and
35. STOKES HALL.
H. B. Harris. — 1. Land may be rented on some properties for provision grounds, but not on those under cultivation. Indeed there seems to be a decided objection and settled prejudice against it. Each tenant is supposed to cultivate from one to three acres. Annual rent from 16*s.* to 32*s.* 2. They raise ground provisions, cocoa-nut oil, arrowroot, sugar, and a little coffee and pimento. 3. I believe they will be too happy to form co-operative and industrial societies.

36. SPANISH TOWN,
37. SLIGOVILLE.
J. M. Phillipo. — 1. Land can be obtained for hire to almost any extent in the highlands, but not in the lowlands. In some parts of the latter it is not to be obtained at all. The rentcharge per acre in the mountains is 12*s.* per annum, in the lowlands 20*s.* The extent of land hired seldom exceeds one acre, in some cases half an acre, engaged for a year only. Two or three acres are sometimes leased by an individual or family for a term of years, but this is by no means common. 2. Principally in the mountain portion of the district the peasantry raise yams, cocoa, plantains, bananas, sugar, coffee, peas, beans, pine apples, together with almost every description of tropical fruit. In the lowlands the products are similar, with the addition of cassada, and greater quantities of peas and beans, melons, and other vegetables. I

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	should think the people in this district are treated fairly by the purchasers of their produce. They indeed possess such knowledge of commercial transactions that it would be difficult for any one to defraud them. 3. I feel confident that numbers of the more respectable and industrious would be glad to avail themselves of the advantages which co-operative and industrial societies would offer, and that they would ultimately prove a very great blessing to the whole labouring population. I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion that no plan that could be devised would operate to such a degree to stimulate the industry and promote the temporal well-being of the population.
38. MOUNT MERRICK, 39. POINT HILL, and 40. MOUNT BIRRELL. *R. E. Watson.*	1. The people raise ground provisions, coffee, sugar, corn, and peas. 2. Most likely they would be willing to form co-operative and industrial societies for mutual assistance and encouragement in raising, selling, and exporting produce.
41. HAYES, 42. ENON, 43. CROSS, and 44. ELIM. *A. Duckett.*	1. Lands are rented on a few of the properties at 26*s.* per acre. 2. The labouring people do not export any produce, except a small quantity of bees-wax and honey, which a few persons sell to ship captains. They grow cassada, sweet potatoes, beans, peas, maize, and guinea corn, but hardly enough for family consumption. 3. A few will be willing to unite in co-operative and industrial association.
45. FOUR PATHS, 46. GREENOCK, 47. THOMSON TOWN, 48. PORUS, and 49. MANDEVILLE. *W. Claydon.*	The peasantry raise ground provisions, coffee, sugar. They export considerable quantities of coffee. Some will be willing to form co-operative associations and industrial societies; but great care will be necessary, or their formation will be very detrimental to their interests.
50. STACEY VILLE and 51. PARADISE. *R. Dalling.*	1. There are three properties in my district on which land can be rented; Stanhope, Kelletts, and Morant. The annual rent per acre is 20*s.* 2. The labouring classes raise cane, coffee, and ground provisions. Coffee they grow for export as well as for home consumption. Some of the people deal largely in the cultivation of tobacco, which begins to pay remarkably well. 3. I cannot say whether the people would be disposed to unite in co-operative and industrial societies.
52. PORT MARIA and 53. ORACABESSA. *C. Sibley.*	Off the Island.
54. MOUNT ANGUS - *T. Smith.*	1. Land is rented on several estates at an annual charge of 20*s.* per acre. 2. The people have a little coffee and pimento on their freeholds, which are the only exportable produce, but it is very little. 3. They will be willing to form co-operative and industrial societies.
55. ST. ANN'S BAY and 56. OCHO RIOS. *B. Millard.*	1. Land may be rented in the Saint Ann's Bay district, on Drax Hall, at 48*s.* a year; Seville, formerly 60*s.* for any quantity, now 40*s.* per acre in cultivation, and an acre to be cultivated; Coolshade, 36*s.*; Richmond, 36*s.*; Blenheim, 36*s.*; Content, 20*s.*; Old Banks, 24*s.*; Blowfire, 36*s.*; New Ground, Look Out, and a few other places. In Ocho Rios district, Roaring River, 48*s.*; Annandale, 24*s.*; Rockfield, 24*s.*; Great Pond, 20*s.*; Healthy Hill, 20*s.* to 28*s.*; Relief, 20*s.*; Hyattsfield, 20*s.*; Thatchfield, 20*s.*; Woodfield, 16*s.*; Soho, 20*s.*; Prospect, 20*s.*; Goshen, 20*s.* On several of these properties only a few acres can be rented out. I cannot state the number of persons in the district who rent; but the following amounts received on four estates for 1864 will show how the rents vary: No. I., 11*l.* 12*s.*; No. II., 19*l.* 16*s.*; No. III., no rents; No. IV., 151*l.* 2*s.* In some places the grounds are remote from the dwellings. 2. The peasantry raise pimento, formerly 3*d.* and 2½*d.*, now 1*d.* Sugar 22*s.* and 24*s.*, now 16*s.* Coffee, 6*d.* a quart, now 9*d.* and 1*s.* Corn (a few), 6*s.* and 8*s.*, now 4*s.* and 5*s.*, sometimes 6*s.* Honey, 1*s.* per bottle; wax, 1*s.* and 9*d.* lb. The disadvantages are the export duty on pimento, but this is not very heavy. 3. I cannot say whether the people will be willing to form co-operative and industrial societies. The want of mutual confidence, of persistent industry, and of energy, and also of education, will prove serious obstacles, which, however, with patient teaching may be modified.
57. MONEAGUE and 58. MOUNT NEBO. *J. Gordon.*	1. Land may be rented on several properties, but it does not pay. 2. The people raise ground provisions, coffee, tobacco, and sugar cane. 3. They are prepared to form co-operative societies.
59. COULTART GROVE. *J. Steele.*	No returns.
60. BROWN'S TOWN, 61. BETHANY, and 62. STURGE TOWN. *J. Clark.*	1. Land is rented at from 10*s.* to 40*s.* per acre per annum. 2. The people cultivate for household use, and for sale in the markets, ground provisions and sugar; for exportation, coffee and pimento, and a small quantity of sugar. Only a few raise sufficient to make it worth their while to become exporters on their own account, and these generally get a fair price for their produce from respectable merchants, and get paid in cash, sometimes beforehand.

Some, however, fall into the hands of dishonest traders, and do not get a fair price for their produce. 3. If the subject of co-operative societies were taken up by persons in whose knowledge and judgment and integrity the people place full confidence, they would unite in them. They would, however, need advances on the produce shipped.

63. SALEM and
64. GRATEFUL HILL.
J. Bennett.

65. CLARKSONVILLE,
66. MOUNT ZION.
F. Johnson.

1. The peasantry raise coffee, pimento, corn, ginger, beans, and ground provisions; some of the former for export, but they sell to the merchants, and do not ship on their own accounts. The bad roads are a great hindrance.

67. ALPS and
68. SPRING GARDENS.
P. O'Meally.

Several of the properties rent land to the people at 20*s.* per acre. 2. The people raise ginger, arrowroot, coffee, sugar, for export. Ground provision for home consumption. Those who have shipped complain of having to wait so long for their money, and, having no other means of living, barter in the Island for what they can get.

SCHEDULE H.

CAUSES OF THE INCREASE OF STEALING.

1. FALMOUTH - - *Thos. Lea.*

1. Poverty. 2. Idleness. 3. Ignorance. 4. Want of employment, are, we think, the causes of the increase of crime.

2. WALDENSIA - - *J. Kingdon.*

1. Poverty. 2. Idleness.

3. BUNKER'S HILL,
4. BETHTEPHIL, and
5. HASTINGS.
G. R. Henderson.

1. Poverty. 2. Idleness.

6. STEWART TOWN and
7. GIBRALTAR.
W. M. Webb.

1. Want of employment. 2. Idleness, especially among the youug.

8. RIO BUENO - - *D. J. East.*

1. The diminished means of parents, who, being unable to support their children, allow them to go from their homes to live as they can. 2. The gradual growth of a vagabond class in the community, the natural excresence of freedom, which allows a man to become a vagabond if he chooses. The most notorious thief of this district has been known to say that he would not work while he could live without it. 3. The small breadth of land which the peasantry are content to cultivate, and which, not being sufficient to employ them and their families more than from two to three days a week on an average throughout the year, engenders in the children loose and idle habits. 4. The low tone of public morality in regard to the crime of stealing. Many scarcely consider petty thefts a sin; a state of morals inherited and encouraged on sugar estates by the indulgences allowed during crop time, encouraged by the common practice on estates of compromising felonies, by inflicting fines for larceny of canes and sugar, &c., instead of prosecuting according to law. 5. The indulgent treatment of prisoners in the public gaols, so that when the term of imprisonment expires it is said that many return to their friends to report the good treatment they have received. 6. The popular treatment which a criminal on coming out of gaol frequently meets with, being hailed by friends and neighbours as an unfortunate who has found deliverance.

9. REFUGE and
10. DUNCANS.
E. Fray.

The fact that the people now steal from provision grounds proves that they are pressed by want.

11. MONTEGO BAY and
12. WATFORD HILL.
J. E. Henderson.

For the most part idleness. The young people used to find it easy to live in the yards of the well-to-do people, who readily give them food for an hour's work during the day, especially if they are in any way related to them. This, with the pressure there is now on all classes, cannot now be done. They have therefore been sent forth to obtain their own living. Not being good labourers, the estates will not employ them. They have no land, nor have they any means to rent any, if they so wished. They have therefore become vagabonds, and prey upon the provision grounds of the more industrious. I believe large numbers of them were left orphans in the visitation of cholera in 1850 and 1851.

J. Reid.

13. MOUNT CAREY and
14. BETHEL TOWN.
E. Hewett.

1. Pride and laziness. 2. Improvidence on the part of the young. 3. The want of remunerative employment.

15. SHORTWOOD - - *J. Maxwell.*

1. Laziness. 2. In a few cases of young children, hunger.

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	18. Lucea, 19. Sandy Bay, and 20. Green Island. *W. Teall.*	Off the Island.
	21. Mount Peto and 22. Gurney's Mount. *C. E. Randall.*	No returns.
	23. Savanna-la-Mar *J. Clarke.*	1. Want of employment. 2. Neglected education. 3. Bad mothers and careless fathers. 4. Bad training. 5. Laziness. 6. Night revels. 7. Gambling.
	24. Fuller's Field - *W. Burke.*	No returns.
	25. Black River - *J. Barrett.*	Laziness, especially on the part of the young people.
	26. Bethsalem and 27. Wallingford. *G. Milliner.*	No returns.
	28. Kingston and 29. Yallahs. *E. Palmer.*	No returns.
	30. Annotto Bay - 31. Buff Bay - *P. Jones.*	Partly poverty; mostly indolence and vicious habits. Want of employment.
	32. Bethlehem - *J. Porter.*	
	33. Boston - -	Want of religious education. 2. Want of employment.
	34. Belle Castle and 35. Stokes Hall. *H. B. Harris.*	1. Bad example of those who occupy the higher ranks of life. 2. Want of proper training and religious education.
	36. Spanish Town and 37. Sligoville. *J. M. Phillippo.*	1. Generally poverty. 2. In many cases idleness and dissipated habits. 3. Not unfrequently improvidence.
	38. Mount Merrick, 39. Point Hill, and 40. Mount Birrell. *R. E. Watson.*	1. Poverty in part. 2. In part indolence and covetousness.
	41. Hayes, 42. Enon, 43. Cross, and 44. Elim. *A. Duckett.*	1. The natural disposition of some; would steal if they were kings. 2. Laziness in some. 3. Starvation in others from want of employment. 4. The system of barrack life on the estates.
	45. Four Paths, 46. Greenock, 47. Thompson Town, 48. Porus, and 49. Mandeville. *W. Claydon.*	Juvenile vagrancy arising from want of parental authority, which is totally set aside.
	50. Staceyville and 51. Paradise. *K. Dalling.*	Want of industry.
	52. Port Maria and 53. Oracabessa *C. Sibley.*	Off the Island.
	54. Mount Angus *T. Smith.*	Want.
	55. St. Ann's Bay and 56. Ocho Rios. *B. Millard.*	some, but comparatively few cases of poverty. 2. Unsettled habits of young men. 3. Want of employment. 4. An inveterate habit of stealing in some.
	57. Moneague and 58. Mount Nebo. *J. Gordon.*	Laziness. 2. Want of employment. 3. Irregular payment.
	59. Coultart Grove *J. Steele.*	No returns.
	60. Brown's Town, 61. Bethany, and 62. Sturge Town. *J. Clark.*	1. Many steal from absolute want; but few of these are brought before the courts. 2. The greater part of the thieves are able men and boys, who either can get no employment or are too lazy to work.

63. SALEM and 64. GRATEFUL HILL. *J. Bennett.*	Some from distress.
65. CLARKSONVILLE and 66. MOUNT ZION. *F. Johnson.*	
67. ALPS and 68. SPRING GARDENS. *P. O. Malley.*	1. Want. 2. Laziness.

SCHEDULE I.

TAXATION AND LAWS.

1. FALMOUTH - *Thos. Lea.*	Taxation, and the extravagant import duties on food and unmanufactured articles, press heavily on the labouring classes. 2. The people complain that the magistrates are generally their employers. As non-conformists, they are compelled, though covertly by taxation, to pay heavily for the support of a stipendiary church, from which by far the greater portion of them (say three fourths) entirely dissent. The 10*s.* fee on the registration of votes.
2. WALDENSIA and - 3. BUNKER'S HILL - *J. Kingdon.*	1. Taxation and import duties press heavily on the people.
4. BETHTEPHIL - 5. HASTINGS. - - *G. R. Henderson.*	Taxation and import duties press heavily upon the people. The duties on all imports are much too high. It is also hard to make old people, who keep a donkey, just to carry provisions to and from the market, pay so high a tax; also, that people who use their horses only to go to their grounds should pay 11*s.*, when the planters stock used for working on roads are not so taxed; also that a poor man owning a mare, for which he is taxed 1*s.*, should be made to walk in some cases over 20 miles, and then pay 1*s.* more to the clerk of the peace for his licence. Although the people are so heavily taxed, yet when there is no sugar estate near the roads are almost given up, so that carts can scarcely pass, and are often broken. The bridges are in such a bad state that horses and saddles have been lost by falling through. The minister of the district has complained repeatedly to the Social Board. Another gentleman, Capt. Reid, has also written; but for some years people have been obliged to repair their own bridges, and in some cases their own roads. 2. They are compelled to pay heavily for the support of the stipendiary church from which three fourths entirely dissent. 3. Defective poor laws. I have known two or three persons die from want. Although I tried to get relief from the Trelawny pauper fund, was unable to do so, owing to a cruel law placed on the parish book, to take no one who does not appear before them, or who have not been seen by a vestryman or magistrate, when it is known that no vestryman or magistrate lives in distant parts of the parish. It is impossible for any old or sickly persons to walk a distance from 12 to 20 miles, and unless the resolution is removed many poor old people must be starved to death.
6. STEWART TOWN - 7. GIBRALTAR - - *W. M. Webb.*	Taxation is pressing upon all classes, and more so upon the higher and middle; the people have few direct taxes. There is much corruption in our petty courts, which tells against the labouring people. The people also have to complain of the heavy burden of a political church which they have to support.
8. REFUGE and - 9. DUNCANS - - *E. Fray.*	1. The tax on the food consumed by the people is objectionable; and the law which compels them to support a state church is unjust.
10. RIO BUENO - *D. J. East.*	The 10*s.* fee on the registration of votes has been only partially repealed. This still disfranchises the 6*l.* freeholders. 2. The high ad valorem duties charged upon the dry goods, worn almost exclusively by the labouring classes. 3. The cart licence still enormously high, the burden of which is specially felt by the small settler. In fact the whole system of taxation is wanting in the consideration which the mother country exercises towards the industrial classes. The burden of taxation, which for many years it has been the policy of the Home Government to throw on the better-to-do classes, to the relief of the poorer, is, in Jamaica, imposed upon the latter, without regard to their being less able to bear it. The Island policy seems to be also at variance with that of the mother country in laying heavy taxes on food and the necessaries of life, which it has for many years been the home policy to reduce. 4. But in Jamaica taxation can probably only be reduced by a reduction of expenditure; and, in my opinion, that reduction should commence with the church establishment. In a country so impoverished it could not be too much to ask the state paid church to submit to a reduction of one third of its revenues. This would allow at once of a reduction of taxation to the extent of 15,000*l.*

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11. MONTEGO BAY -
12. WATFORD HILL -
J. E. Henderson.

J. Reid.

The 10*s.* fee on the registration of votes has only been partially repealed. I also consider it a hardship that a man who keeps a horse for purposes of agriculture should have to pay a tax equal that paid by one who keeps a horse for purposes of pleasure; that he should have to pay a heavy tax upon cart wheels and upon his donkey. Especially do I consider it a hardship that though a dissenter from he has to contribute largely to the support of a church establishment, which is emphatically the church of the rich. (Rev. J. E. Henderson.) It is my decided opinion that the whole of legislation since the advent of freedom has been extravagant, partial, and unjust; and, with the exception of having provided comfortable berths for official persons, has not been beneficial to any classss in the Island, while it has pressed most injuriously on the masses. 2. The system of immigration. The sufferings of the victims may not be described, but the heavy expense (till recently) was defrayed from the taxation of the country, while the object was, or at all events has been, to drive the native labourers from the estate, and force him to seek his living elsewhere. 3. The road enactments: Vast sums are spent on the main roads, and on those which lead to estates or pens, or to gentlemen's country mansions, whilst those which lead to the villages and freeholds of the people are sadly neglected, and many of them are dangerous to travel over. 4. Moreover there is the taxing of the working animals and carts of the labouring man at the same rate as the horse kept for pleasure. 5. The 10*s.* fee on the registration of votes has been only partially repealed. 6. We cannot pass by the stipendiary church, swallowing up a large portion of the revenue for the support of her services. The majority of the population neither derive nor wish to derive any benefit from them. 7. Import duty, 12½ per cent.

13. MOUNT CAREY and
14. BETHEL TOWN.
E. Hewett.

The 10*s.* tax on claims to vote has been only partially repealed. 2. The immigration laws are considered most unjust. Immigrants have been brought by thousands into the country, and the very people whose labour they have displaced have been compelled by law to pay their quota for bringing them here, and have to provide for them in the gaols, hospitals, and poorhouses, and to assist in sending them back to their own home at the end of their contract. A heavy debt has been contracted for these schemes, against the desire and interests of the masses, which is saddled on them and their children for years to come. 3. The laws inflicting an ecclesiastical establishment on the people are considered unjust, and most injurious to the interests of the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ. The churches of the establishment, in most places, are not largely attended by the labouring classes. Not more than one fifth are dependant on her ministers for religious instructions. The labouring poor have at the same time their own places of worship to erect, and to maintain, and to attend them on the Sabbath Day; and while they support in part, or entirely, their own ministers, are compelled by law to meet the pecuniary requirements of the church of the few and the rich. These unjust laws involve taxation to the amount of upwards of 40,000*l.* per annum. 4. The Main Road laws are considered unjust, because by their operation the post roads are made and kept in good order, while the other roads (the feeders to the main lines) have been allowed to fall into decay until they are almost impassible in some districts. It is in these districts, where the roads are so much neglected, that the freeholders and provision growers live and labour; and it is a very serious drawback to the value of their produce that they cannot bring it to the market without great expense and danger to life and limb. 5. Little has been done, since the advent of freedom, by the Government, for the encouragement and elevation of the masses of the Colony. It has not been paternal, but antagonistic, except in the annual grant of 3,000*l.* for educational purposes. 5. It must be considered that the administration of the law is principally in the hands of one class of persons (the planters), except in the towns; and there is a widespread impression that the law, as administered by them, is not always fair and just. The courts for the adjudication of minor matters are not sufficiently numerous, nor are they held with sufficient frequency. Petty courts are not always conducted with sufficient dignity, and are frequently swayed by partiality. 6. The taxation of the country is heavy and oppressive, and more than it is able to bear. It may not be more than is required by the present exigencies of the Government, but it is more than capital and labour should be called upon to pay. My impression is that next year it will be exceedingly difficult to collect the taxes, and unless some great commercial and agricultural improvement takes place it will be impossible to collect them at all. 7. Taxes on food are always injurious, when imposed on articles consumed by the poorer classes. The taxes on clothing are also high, and both press heavily on the labouring classes, because they are the main consumers. 8. The adjustment of taxation seems to be further unfair in the following particulars: A labouring man, who uses his horse or mule for the purpose of conveying his produce to market, pays a tax of 10*s.* on the animal, but the sugar grower pays only 6*d.* on the ox that draws his sugar to the wharf.

15. SHORTWOOD - *Jas. Maxwell.*	The burden of taxation is not equally or proportionally so. The support of the Church of England out of the public treasury, and the grants therefrom to other religious bodies, are oppressive.
16. SALTERS HILL and 17. MALDON. *W. Dendy.*	
18. LEUCEA, 19. SANDY BAY, and 20. GREEN ISLAND. *W. Teall.*	Off the Island.
21. MOUNT PETO and 22. GURNEY'S MOUNT. *C. E. Randall.*	
23. SAVANNA-LA-MAR *J. Clarke.*	Our laws need just administration. We have no right to be taxed for partial loans to benefit individuals, immigration, &c.
24. FULLER'S FIELD - *W. Burke.*	
25. BLACK RIVER - *J. Barrett.*	The taxation of the country at the present time presses unjustly on the labouring classes, directly as well as indirectly.
26. BETHSALEM and 27. WALLINGFORD. *G. Milliner.*	
28. KINGSTON and 29. YALLAHS. *E. Palmer.*	
30. ANNOTTO BAY and 31. BUFF BAY - *S. Jones.*	
32. BETHLEHEM - *J. Porter.*	
33. BOSTON - - *J. Service.*	The law requiring those who have a donkey to pay 3*s.* 6*d*, and those having a horse to pay 10*s.*, and 1*s.* for licence, whilst the sugar proprietor pays only 6*d.* per head for each working stock, is unfair.
34. BELLE CASTLE and 35. STOKES HALL. *H. B. Harris.*	I think the immigration law and the new flogging law are objectionable. 2. Heavy tax on horses and carts also. 3. The revenue for the support of the church establishment, from which the majority of the people receive no benefit. In the petty courts many of the people have the impression that they cannot obtain justice, from the fact that the magistrates are for the most part interested parties.
36. SPANISH TOWN and 37. SLIGOVILLE. *J. M. Phillippo.*	1. It is supposed there is generally a bias in the laws to the planter, as for instance a mule on an estate pays 6*d.* tax, while to others the charge is 11*s.*, and in the same ratio other taxable property.
38. MOUNT MERRICK, 39. POINT HILL, and 40. MOUNT BIRRELL. *R. E. Watson.*	
41. HAYES, 42. ENON, 43. CROSS, and 44. ELIM, *A. Duckett.*	Laws as to their administration relating to punishment for what is called a breach of contract on many properties, and so that the labourer may be turned off at any time without knowing how to obtain redress.
45. FOUR PATHS, 46. GREENOCK, 47. THOMPSON TOWN, 48. PORUS, and 49. MANDEVILLE. *W. Claydon.*	1. The administrators of the laws are not generally in sympathy with the people. 2. In some cases the taxes press heavily on the peasantry; they are unusually heavy.
50. STACEYVILLE and 51. PARADISE. *R. Dalling.*	
52. PORT MARIA and 53. ORACABESSA. *C. Sibley.*	Off the Island.
54. MOUNT ANGUS - *J. Smith.*	Registration of votes Act only partially repealed.
55. ST. ANN'S BAY and 56. OCHO RIOS. *B. Millard.*	1. The tax on bonâ fide working estate stock is 6*d.*, that on donkeys is 3*s.* 6*d.* I think the tax should be equalized. 2. Another unjust law is the Immigration Act. 3. I understand some clauses have been introduced into the new Petty Debt Act, preventing any small freeholders from claiming

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damages for trespass of horned stock, unless such freeholders can prove their fences are sufficiently strong to prevent such trespas. This will bear most cruelly on many of the people, as no fence of any reasonable strength will keep out some cattle. 4. The tax on all horse-kind, whether used for working or pleasure, is unjust. 5. The tax on cart wheels, now, I believe, at 6*s.* per wheel, is oppressive. 6. The ecclesiastical system of taxation is unjust. In England, except church rates, which are direct, and self-imposed by majorities of parishioners in vestry assembled, no direct national taxes are raised for ecclesiastical purposes; in Jamaica 10 per cent. of the present ordinary revenue of the country is appropriated to the support of a church attended by a small minority of the community. 6. The Main Road Law is injurious in its working, inasmuch as vast sums of money, raised for post roads, are squandered to little purpose, and the parish roads are neglected. 7. The Vaccination law is most defective, and will prove a dead letter. 8. The Stamp Act, requiring a 6*s.* 6*d.* stamp on deeds under 10*l.*, is not just. 9. The influence of the House of Assembly as at present composed is daily lessening, and it is feared will more and more, as the materials of a respectable legislative body are daily decreasing.

57. MONEAGUE and 58. MOUNT NEBO. *J. Gordon.* — The duties on imported food and clothing are oppressive. 2. The 30,000*l.* a year to support the Church of England is unjust. 3. The horse tax is objectionable. The magistrates bench is partial in its administration.

59. COULTART GROVE *J. Steele.* — No returns.

60. BROWN'S TOWN, 61. BETHANY, and 62. STURGE TOWN. *J. Clark.* — The export duties press heavily in proportion to the exports of the peasantry, and as they are designed to meet the cost of immigration, and immigrant labour having thrown them out of employment, it is unjust to make them pay for it, while the import duties on provisions and clothing press with peculiar force on them in this time of scarcity of food and low wages, and difficulty in most places of obtaining employment. 2. There is great reason to complain of the application of the amount raised by taxation, especially for religious purposes. Nearly the whole of the labouring population being dissenters, 40,000*l.* or more are spent on the Church, which is only attended by a tithe of the community, and that the richest portion.

63. SALEM and 64. GRATEFUL HILL. *J. Bennett.*

65. CLARKSONVILLE and 66. MOUNT ZION. *F. Johnson.*

67. ALPS and 68. SPRING GARDENS. *P. O'Malley.* — I consider the taxes too heavy on the people. The taxes on horses and wheels work injuriously to the peasantry.

SCHEDULE K.

SPECIAL AS TO LARGE TOWNS.

No. 1. FALMOUTH *Thos. Lea.* — 1. Very large numbers are unable to obtain employment suitable to their condition in society and their previous habits of life. 2. Many tradesmen suffer through the large importation of manufactured articles. Many who are unemployed have no trades. Generally, poverty throws many needlewomen out of employment, and it is generally believed that this class suffers many privations. 3. Tradesmen generally earn from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per day. Wages are lower now than they were some years ago. There is a decided lack of skilled labour. 5. All classes suffer through the depression of the times.

No. 2. MONTEGO BAY *J. E. Henderson.* — There is much poverty chiefly among needlewomen, many of whom are in great distress. Carpenters, cabinet-makers, masons, also find it difficult to obtain employment. 2. Carpenters are paid from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day. Masons the same. Needlewomen 9*d.* per day. 4. There is want of skilled labour. 5. The evidences of poverty and distress are (*a*) keeping away from church, (*b*) keeping away from school, (*c*) the fact that their furniture is often sold at public outcry, for the payment of debts, and the further fact that those who are owners of houses are allowing them to fall down because they have not the means to repair them. 6. The criminal population of this town has increased from poverty, pride, and idleness.

23. SAVANNA-LA-MAR *J. Clarke.* — 1. Many are in want of employment. 2. All, without distinction of colour, are badly off. The wages of artisans have been reduced. 3. Many are destitute. 4. The casting off religion has led to carelessness and indolence, and these have tended to increase the criminal population.

6. SPANISH TOWN - A great number are in want of employment, both entirely and in part, principally domestic servants, tradesmen, and washerwomen. The coloured class of females are less well off. Many were brought up in comparative comfort, with slaves and servants. The town was once filled with lodging houses, which employed many domestic servants, but the railway to Kingston, and the charge of the law courts, have completely taken away all profit from the lodging-house keepers and employment from many servants. Out of 12,715 persons in the parish, there are in Spanish Town—

J. M. Phillippo.

White males	195	Brown 854	Black 1,016
„ females	227	1,342	1,730
	422	2,196	2,746

The tradesmen, 1,180 in number, mostly live in town, and as may be expected from their number they have a very precarious existence. There are—

33 bakers	38 bricklayers	228 carpenters
91 shoemakers	20 wheelwrights	33 blacksmiths
21 builders	63 masons	127 tailors.

Many of the carpenters, masons, and bricklayers work out of town, but the bakers, tailors, and shoemakers work only for the immediate district. They do not have any slop work to do for sale in the country, most of that description of work being imported. Perhaps a little heavier duty on ready-made imported clothing might be productive of good, if the stuffs were admitted cheaper. The introduction of a few sewing-machines would also be a great boon to them, for many of these people are not fit for agricultural work, and leave the country to seek employment of a less laborious kind in the towns. There are 1,045 domestic servants in the parish, most of them in the town; not half of them in a situation at any given time, mostly females; 772 seamstresses are always poor, most of them only getting occasional work of the country people before the August and Christmas holidays; 422 laundresses, of whom not a quarter find work; 136 fishermen and fisherwomen, who on the whole do very well, but would do much better if fish-curing were properly understood. The town is pauper stricken. Those who have a little work to do can barely manage to support themselves, and consequently the old are thrown on the public to support.

There are 422 over 60 years of age, most of them receiving parochial relief. There are 672 in the country, of whom very few get this kind of assistance. Take half the domestic servants, viz., 520, two thirds of the laundresses, 280, and the same of the seamstresses, 440=1,440 in the town without regular employment, and you get a number of people who could be profitably employed in a paper manufactory, dyeworks, or something of the kind, but who must otherwise continue to lead a life of poverty and almost necessary immorality. These people are really not fit for field-work, and many who lead criminal lives come into the town in the first instance to find employment suited to them. 4. Tradesmen charge 3*s.* a day, and will not come down in their charges. Tailors and shoemakers work by the job to order.

55. ST. ANN'S BAY - There are many persons in want of employment either wholly or in part. The classes suffering most from this cause are coloured females; (*b.*) families formerly dependent upon slave-hire, having no means of subsistence; (*c.*) seamstresses; (*d.*) carpenters, who earn 3*s.*, 2*s.*, half-inch ones, 1*s.* 6*d.*; masons ditto. There is a lack of skilled workmen.

Enclosure 2 in No. 21. Encl. 2 in No. 21.

The Honourable Custos KETELHODT to Mr. AUSTIN.

Oxford Estate, St. Thomas-in-the-East, April 13, 1865.

SIR,

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of circular of 13th March, enclosing copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State on the subject of a communication of the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society on the present condition of Jamaica, and the distress prevalent among its coloured population.

In reply to the queries of his Excellency the Governor, I beg to say that, however desirable and urgent it unquestionably is that the most serious attention of Her Majesty's Government be drawn to the extremely critical position in which a protracted struggle with difficulties of every kind has placed the sugar interest of this Island, the remarks contained in Dr. Underhill's letter are not applicable to the labouring classes of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The rate of wages has not varied much, in fact it has scarcely varied at all during the last few years. The prices of ground provisions have not risen greatly within the same period, and are not unusually high now; on the contrary, they may be called cheap, although in the Blue Mountain District they are, according to the report of Mr. Danvers, herewith enclosed, somewhat dearer these last three years than previously. Work is not less easily obtained or less remunerative than in former years; and the

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peasantry generally are as well off and as decently clad as heretofore. On these subjects I beg to refer, in regard to the Blue Mountain Valley District, to the report of Mr. Danvers, a gentleman who has for a great number of years resided on and managed his extensive properties in that district; and as to the Plantain Garden River District, to that of Mr. Harrison, the manager of Hordley Estate, herewith enclosed. Both gentlemen are magistrates, and thoroughly competent to deal with the subject. I beg to call most particularly the attention of his Excellency to the report of Mr. Harrison, on account of its fulness as to details.

In the only remaining sugar district of the parish (since the total abandonment of sugar cultivation in Manchioneal), viz., that extending from Morant Bay to Port Morant along the seashore, in which my own properties, Oxford and East Prospect, are situated, the daily pay is now, as it has been for the last 10 years, 1*s.* for a task easily accomplished in six hours. In cane-hole digging and trenching, a description of labour now only performed by men, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* are usually earned per day. In all other work the rates are as given in the report of Mr. Harrison.

The staple of this parish is sugar, of which from 3,300 to 4,000 tons have hitherto been produced annually, together with about 2,300 puncheons of rum, on 19 sugar estates, employing about 3,000 labourers daily.

In the Manchioneal District cotton has been cultivated since the American War has raised the price of that commodity, on the estates of two cotton companies, and on those of his Excellency's predecessor, Sir Charles Darling.

This cultivation during the last few years may have given employment to from 300 to 400 labourers.

Coffee cultivation, pen-keeping, some pimento walks, arrowroot, a little tobacco, honey, and wax, the raising of cocoa nuts and ground provisions for their own consumption as well as far the markets of the parish towns, and for sale in the city of Kingston, constitute the chief employment of the rest of the population. A little sugar is also manufactured by some of the small settlers; and I know of no discouragement which they meet with in the prosecution of these means of supporting themselves. Considerable quantities of logwood and fustic are also prepared for the markets of England and the United States, and afford good wages. As a further resource of the rural and poor population of this parish, possessing, as it does, a seaboard which extends over about 36 miles, fishing must not be omitted; and it must further be borne in mind that in almost no case does the labourer depend on his wages alone, but that he employs, not only generally Saturday, but occasionally a whole week, and also his spare time when his task is completed, either in working his provision ground (whether his own property or rented), or in attending to his horses, asses, goats, pigs, poultry, &c.

2. If, notwithstanding this rarity of profitable and remunerating employment for all of the labouring classes who are willing to work, distress and destitution is occasionally met with, the cause must be chiefly sought in the circumstances adverted by Mr. Harrison, and in the weakness of the family ties among the less advanced of the emancipated classes, and the consequent neglect of the aged and infirm by their relatives; hence increased demands for parochial and occasionally private relief; although a beggar, in the European sense of the word, is even now a rare sight indeed. From the report of Mr. Harrison his Excellency will observe that the revivals of 1861, which have led to the neglect of provision grounds, and to much vice and open immorality among the young in so many other parts of the Island, have produced a similar effect in the district to which his report refers, namely, in the Plantain Garden River District.

This evil, I am happy to say, has not assumed the same magnitude in most of the other districts of the parish. It may probably be in part owing to this circumstance that there has been no great increase of the crime of larceny, as appears from the returns of the Clerk of the Peace for the last years, which I herewith enclose.

4. In reference to the alleged increase of summonses for petty debts, I have to state, on the authority of the Clerk of the Peace, that in this parish there has been no increase, and that among the labouring population summonses for petty debts do not occur at all, except it be for the recovery of a balance on the sale of a horse, or on similar transactions, which cannot be considered as betokening poverty or destitution.

While thus it is apparent that in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East there is as yet no destitution or distress among the labouring classes, there can be no doubt that much suffering and misery will be entailed upon them, as well as on the other classes of the community, if any more sugar estates out of the 19 still remaining in cultivation should be at length now compelled to give up the struggle they have hitherto maintained, in the midst of great difficulties, against the slave-grown produce of Cuba. Such a further distraction of capital, which at the present moment unfortunately impends over many estates, blessed with as much fertility as any in other parts of the world (if the virgin soils of Cuba be excepted), in all districts of Jamaica, that of St. Thomas-in-the-East not excepted, could not but have the most deplorable results, irrespective of the irretrievable ruin in which it will involve the numerous proprietors who have gradually sunk and at last exhausted their resources in keeping their estates in cultivation. The unprecedented drought by which the greater portion of the sugar districts of the Island has been visited since the well-meant but in many points erroneous statements of Dr. Underhill were laid before the Government, and since the Despatch of the Secretary of State on the subject was written, has increased the peril of the sugar interest, and with it that of the institutions and the whole civilization of the country tenfold:

1. Weakened and depressed as that interest has been by the protracted and unequalled competition with the virgin soils of Cuba, worked by slaves, whose numbers are constantly increased by the slave trade, African or Chinese;
2. By competition with the cheapest free labour of the world, that of India; and,
3. With the capital and skill of Europe engaged in the production of beetroot sugar.

It is not in a position, unaided, to ward off the results of the last calamity that has just befallen it, and the thanks of the whole community will be due to Dr. Underhill if in consequence of his representations the serious attention of the Imperial Government should be drawn to the present position of

Jamaica, with the view of seeing an Island possessed of such great natural resources, with a population of half a million of loyal subjects, from further most miserable decadence. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin, Government Secretary.

(Signed) MAN. AUGUST. Baron Von KETELHODT, Custos, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Sir, Hordley Estate, Plantain Garden River, April 7, 1865.

In reply to your circular of 3d instant, just received, I beg to state:

The rates of wages have not been decreased by the day, task, or job, but have been increased considerably in the aggregate within the last three or four years by the bad way and irregular manner in which the work as a rule has been performed. My rates per day for the last 10 years have been unchanged. 1*s.* for a day of 10 hours (including one hour for breakfast, 9 hours work), but this is for such light and irregular work that a task cannot be well defined. Wainmen get 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.* per day of 10 to 12 hours; carpenters, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* for 9 hours; blacksmiths, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* for the same. My other labourers' work is by the task and job. Some hands in the task gang are content to work for 3*d.*, 4½*d.*, and 6*d.*, whilst others alongside them earn 1*s.*, 1*s.* 3*d.*, and a few earn 1*s.* 6*d.* easily in a day of 9 or 10 hours. By the job my canes are cut, and also pastures billed and cleaned. The cutting cane jobs are taken up by two men, who with their people contract to take off a crop often over 300 hogsheads. These are generally efficient hands, and often when they have completed a cane-piece find their share is 4*s.* per day of 12 hours to each man and woman. Cane-carriers and mill-hands work by the task or job, and average 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day of 12 to 14 hours, according to the speed of the motive and grinding power.

Ground provisions are neither so dear nor so scarce as this time three years ago. Compared with five or six years ago, cocoas are much dearer, which I attribute to the "rot," a disease they are now troubled with. I have not given much attention to the cause of that disease, but I should consider the want of change of seed has much to do with it, the cocoa heads from same cocoas having been planted over for the last 50 years.

Since the revival I have suffered much from irregularity of supply of labourers. For years before and up to the week of the Census, when it broke out here, I had a full supply of regular people, the same hands working for years with me, and promoted from one work to another according to their aptitude. Weekly lists were almost the same names over again, and the greatest satisfaction and mutual confidence existed. From that date up to the present moment I have had a most irregular, and at times, when most wanted, a most inefficient supply of inferior labourers, and unless the resident ones, seldom any hand works two weeks consecutively. Were it not for the few African immigrants I was fortunate enough to get by the "Hugh Patterson" in January 1861 I would have been in a bad position as regards planting and manuring.

Good and industrious labourers are as well dressed and comfortably clad and as well fed as ever I knew them. The young indolent boys and girls are ill-clad, dishonest, and at times no doubt are in great distress.

The demand for labour is as great as ever, and a civil and good hand is never refused work (we are too glad to get him or her). If inclined to stay, work of some kind or other is provided for him if his usual employment has become slack. My experience dates from 10 years in this district. Up to the revival I found the labourers industrious, painstaking, sober, civil, and, in a Jamaica point of view, moral, and regular church and chapel goers. A great change has come over them since then; many have got into bad indolent habits, and the whole community demoralized. Of course there are many exceptions, but they are to be found only in the old people, and those who did not give way to such vagaries and gross sensuality; but they daily complain to me of lost influence and unheeded counsels, and the indolence and vices of their children since that unfortunate epoch. I may therefore briefly reply—

1st. Wages have not decreased during the last 10 years.

2d. Provisions are not so dear as three years ago, but dearer than five or six years ago.

3d. Work is as easily obtained and as remunerative now as I have ever known it.

4th. I perceive no difference in the comforts of the industrious blacks.

5th. The indolent pay the penalty of indolence, and are not well off, but better off here than they would be in England and Scotland, as they can and do live on the fruits of the country, and pilfering the grounds of their industrious fellows.

6th. Most of the evils, social, moral, and physical, amongst the young, I trace and attribute to the sensuality and reckless vagaries of the revival in May and June 1861.

7th. I employ about an average of 180 labourers per day per annum, and spend in labourers wages alone 2,500*l.* a year.

I have, &c.

Hon. Baron Von Ketelhodt, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. HARRISON, Manager and attorney for Hordley Estate.

To the Honourable Baron Von Ketelhodt.

Sir, St. Thomas-in-the-East, April 7, 1865.

I have the honour of acknowledging your circular of the 3d April.

In reply to your question No. 2., I beg to state that so far as my knowledge extends the wages in this district (Blue Mountain Valley) are much the same as they have been for the last 10 years; they run from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* for labourers, and from 1*s.* to 2*s.* for carpenters, coopers from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* Ground provisions have been somewhat dearer these last three years, but this I attribute to the continued drought. Provisions generally speaking are very cheap. The labourers are very independent in this district, and are generally well remunerated for such work as they give. The peasantry

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are well off, most of them having land to the extent of from 1 to 5 and 10 acres, and very few do not possess horses, &c. I have observed no difference in their clothing for the last 10 years.

In answer to No. 3., I am unaware of any unusual distress existing. I believe there is the usual number of people employed, but as they only work as it suits them labour is sometimes very scarce. There cannot be much real distress when they idle three weeks at Christmas, Easter, and August, much to the detriment of the estates.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. F. G. DANVERS.

Encl. 3 in No. 21.

Enclosure 3 in No. 21.

Baron KETELHODT to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Oxford Estate, Morant Bay, May 5, 1865.

UNDER reference to my report of 13th April, in reply to your circular despatch of the 13th March, on the subject of a communication of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State, I beg further to transmit a report of Mr. Augustus Hire, of the Plantain Garden District, received by me subsequently. While this report, to which I would beg to call his Excellency's attention, generally in the main is in unison with the reports which have been sent in to me from the other districts of the parish, there is a statement in it which would appear to me to deserve some further notice. Mr. Hire, namely, states that on the 19th April last a tea meeting took place at Belle Castle in Manchioneal, when a Mr. Service, who is represented as a Baptist minister, told his audience, composed of between 300 and 400 people, that they must educate their children, and not allow them to work in the cane fields. While the advice to educate their children must of course be commended, it would surely be most unreasonable in Christian ministers, of whatever persuasion, to dissuade their congregation from allowing their children to work in the canefields; and I feel confident that such a course of action on the part of any Baptist minister, if brought to the notice of the Baptist Society in England, would meet their entire disapprobation.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) M. A. B. KETELHODT,
Custos, St. Thomas-in-the-East.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Spanish Town.

Encl. 4 in No. 21.

Enclosure 4 in No. 21.

Mr. HIRE to the Hon. Custos KETELHODT.

SIR, Amity Hall, St. Thomas-in-the-East, April 26, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter of the 3d April, which, from my having been much engaged since my return to the Island, I could not reply to before.

It may perhaps facilitate you in dealing with the several answers to the queries contained in your circular, by my replying to them in the order in which they are put.

1. The rate of wages since I have lived on this property, now some 13 years, has not varied, but it now costs more to do every description of field work, except digging cane holes, and it is much more imperfectly done.

Job work or cleaning canes by the acre, which is by far the best and fairest way of having work performed, is, with few exceptions, not procurable, although from 6*s.* to 10*s.* per acre would willingly be given. The present rates are from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* for a certain task, two of which, in most cases, an industrious person could perform, although as a rule one is not; and the book-keepers are incessantly harassed to get the little that is done done decently.

With the simple exception, perhaps, of Plantain Garden River Estate, there is not another estate in the vale of Plantain Garden River which has a sufficient and continuous supply of labour, and consequently a much larger number of hands could get employment if they were disposed to accept it. The demand for indentured Africans, and even boys from the reformatory, to prevent the young canes from being ruined, afford sufficient evidence of that fact. But there is a growing, not to say dislike, but refusal, among all sizes of the negro population, to handle the hoe, to clean canes. Every boy or girl who is able to read and write a few words considers him or herself above any such industrial occupation; and this fact is, I believe, undisputed, or will at least be admitted by all who desire to elucidate the truth. I need not advert upon what a ruinous policy this must be in such a purely agricultural Colony. But it is hardly to be wondered at, if, as I am credibly informed, such doctrines are disseminated amongst our peasantry as were enunciated by a Mr. Service at a Baptist tea meeting held at Belle Castle in Manchioneal on Wednesday the 19th instant, when that person told his audience, composed of between 300 and 400 well dressed people, that "they must educate their children, and "not allow them to work in the cane fields; that they wanted and must have a black aristocracy," and such like sentiments. Yet this is a member and minister of Mr. Underhill's persuasion.

It would be worth while taking evidence as to how the 300 or 400 people at that meeting were dressed, as affording conclusive testimony of that class of the peasantry being less well off or less decently clad than heretofore. Ground provisions, which are solely cultivated by the peasantry, have not much varied in price for the last two years, but during that time they have been dearer than they were previously.

2. I am not aware nor do I believe that any distress exists in this parish amongst the entire able and healthy portion of the negro population, nor should there be if industrial and remunerative occupation is admitted to be a legitimate cause for preventing it; but I regret to add, and I have had frequent opportunities of witnessing it during the period of two or three years that I was churchwarden, that there is great and grievous distress amongst the aged, the infirm, the halt, and the blind, many of

whom are friendless, and others are allowed by their cruel and unnatural relatives to want, and in many cases die.

I look upon this to be one of the worst of features of emancipation, and although a comparatively large sum of money is voted annually for the relief of some of these unfortunates, it is by no means commensurate with the distress which exists.

There are doubtless a good many likewise who so long as they get sufficient food to keep themselves alive are content without much caring how their bodies are clothed. These are the great pilferers, who occasionally do some trifling work, and at other times live as they best can. I may mention how disheartening it is to attempt to rear anything in the shape of small stock when I have had two sheep and two turkeys stolen from me since Christmas.

It would occupy too much space to go into all the causes which contribute to the present state of things; but it is my belief that the gradual decrease of the white population, and the utterly lax way in which every thing is conducted, materially tend thereto.

The number of persons employed by me varies so much, no two weeks hardly ever agreeing, that it is useless my giving numbers. I may add that over forty pounds a week is the average expenditure all the year round, but of this a large portion goes towards the Africans and reformatory boys, who I have been only too glad to get in the absence of a regular supply of labourers.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Baron Von Ketelhodt,
Custos, St. Thomas in the East.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS HIRE.

Enclosure 5 in No. 21.

The Hon. S. MAIS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Encl. 5 in No. 21.

SIR, Halberstadt, Port Royal Mountains, April 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your printed circular dated the 13th ultimo, covering a letter addressed by Dr. Underhill, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

After a careful perusal of the doctor's letter, and the points to which you are requested by his Excellency the Governor to direct my attention, I beg to remark, firstly, upon,—

The agricultural state of this parish—From personal observation and reliable reports is much the same as it has been for the past fifteen years. The abandonment of several large coffee plantations, mine amongst the number, in 1849, 1850, and 1851, temporarily decreased the supply of coffee from this parish; but the number of settlers who highly cultivated small coffee fields a few years after annually took to the Kingston market two thirds of the quantity that the thrown-up properties produced; and in this statement I am borne out from returns obtained from the toll-keepers in the years 1859 and 1861, of the quantity of coffee passing through the gates. The abandonment of the plantations above alluded to arose mainly from the fearful depreciation in the English markets of the value of coffee, as also the large imports from Ceylon. This deplorable state of affairs threw out of employment a large number of labourers, and withdrew from circulation several thousands of pounds which were annually expended in wages.

Condition of the labouring population.—Then arises the question how did these labourers gain a livelihood? They opened up the lands they had previously purchased, and rented patches from one to three acres at 15*s.* to 20*s.* per acre per annum, for the cultivation of yams, corn, beans, &c., and the labour they gave to the coffee proprietors, three and four days per week for nine and ten months in the year; they turned upon their purchased and rented lands, and from these lands, with the usual rains, they obtained a living, and my experience in this and the adjoining parish of St. Andrew passes over a period of twenty-six years, and, with the exception of the first five, I see little or no difference in the labouring population. It is a fact that in consequence of the irregular rainy seasons that the provision fields have not, with the exception of a few districts, yielded a sufficiency of food to enable the owners and tenants to clothe and feed themselves as they had previously been accustomed.

Rates of wages.—The rates of wages upon the coffee plantations are the same now as they used to be some fifteen years back, for weeding, pruning, and picking the coffee. Upon this property guinea grass covers my abandoned coffee fields, and I pay a shilling per diem for cleaning the weeds from the paddocks, and the people working are overlooked by a headman, who receives 1*s.* 3*d.*; but day labour is very unsatisfactory; work commences about half-past seven o'clock; one hour to one hour and a half taken for what is termed breakfast, from eleven to half-past twelve, and precisely at four work is struck; the seven hours labour could be performed by an active man in four.

Paupers.—From the rector and curate, who have the annual distribution of the sum of 350*l.* granted for the paupers, and of whom a list, with remarks, is presented to each quarterly vestry, I have obtained the following information:—In the past five years 23 male and 33 female paupers have died, and 38 male and 57 females added to the lists in the town and mountain districts; those admitted are old and infirm and incapable to work, at the same time the expenditure under this head for the past six years has been gradually increasing, as the annexed return shows.

Petty debt summonses.—From the returns in the office of the clerk of the peace, I find that the petty debt summonses for the past five years increased in the years 1862 and 1863 (see return annexed). At the courts held at the three district court-houses, namely, in the town of Port Royal twice a month, at Roden Vale once a month, and at Harbour Head once a month, the cases consist of abusive language, various quarrels, occasional trespassing, and rarely the larceny of growing provisions, although of such frequent occurrence, the absence of detection being attributable to the artfulness of the thieves. Under this head lamentable grievances do exist; the extent to which the larceny of growing provisions is carried on could scarcely be credited by one not resident amongst the peasantry. The great increase of this crime during the past four years I attribute to innate idleness, the absence of honesty, and an utter disregard or appreciation of the blessings of civilization. Look to our General Penitentiary, and the

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vast increase of prisoners consists of young, healthy, and strong men, too indolent to work, but active at theft.

The expense of clothing, and taste for dress.—The present high price of cotton goods has arisen from the scarcity of the raw material in the mother country. Osnaburgh and penniston, the chief articles of clothing for the male and a considerable portion of the female population of this Island, have not increased in the same ratio as calico and cotton stuffs. The duties levied under our Import Duty Act are fixed at 12½ per cent.; consequently I know not upon what the statement is based quoting the duties at 38 per cent. The taste for gaudy apparel has not abated; and upon a Sunday it is a matter of great astonishment to see those in a very humble sphere of life closely imitating their superiors. Domestic servants in particular stint themselves of necessary food and clothing for the gratification of a flimsy fashionable exterior. Let any one attend a church or chapel, and see the extent to which dressing is carried, and the idea of poverty and starvation would soon vanish. In the country places of worship the peasantry attend neatly, but not so gaily clad. In the city of Kingston the large and well stocked drapery establishments, all apparently flourishing, certainly give an undeniable contradiction to the existence of poverty in the town and in several districts of neighbouring parishes.

The people starving.—I cannot understand how an industrious man could starve in this Colony. Fertile land can be rented by the year for sums varying from 15*s.* to 20*s.* per acre, and if a donkey is necessary to carry the produce to market he can be purchased for 3*l.*, and tax payable annually is 3*s.* I may here inquire in what part of the world could a labourer reap the advantages that this Island offers? Nature is very bountiful, providing fruits nearly the whole year round, and the absence of winter renders clothing inexpensive, and fuel for cooking readily obtained.

Heavy taxation.—Upon this subject I am at a loss to conceive where oppression exists; certainly not amongst the labourers. For example, take a freeholder with ten acres of land, a mare to ride to church or chapel, and two donkeys for market use, and what amount does he annually contribute to the exigencies of the country? 1*d.* per acre upon his land, 10*d.*; the mare, 11*s.*; two donkies, at 3*s.*, 6*s.*; total 17*s.* 10*d.* Where, I ask, is the heavy taxation? Frequently, for political purposes, the duties upon flour, corn-meal, rice, salt fish, pork, &c. are put forth as unjust, but these repeated assertions have no foundation.

The frauds that were committed a few years back upon the small settlers by itinerant rogues, with false weights, who professed to purchase in the mountains coffee, wax, and honey at town prices, were soon detected, and the custodes, aided by many influential magistrates, advised the growers to take their produce to respectable merchants in the town.

Dr. Underhill states in one of the paragraphs of his letter as follows: "I shall say nothing of the "course taken by the Jamaica Legislature, of their abortive Immigration Bills, of their unjust taxation "of the coloured population, of their refusal of just tribunals, of their denial of political rights to the "emancipated negroes." Upon what evidence are these assertions so boldly set forth? In what way are the coloured population unjustly taxed? Is this statement made to admit of the belief that one tax is made for the white and another for the coloured man?

Three district courts are regularly held and presided over by European and coloured gentlemen, associated with a stipendiary magistrate. The suitors in these courts are the labouring population; and speaking of this parish, I, as the chief magistrate, utterly deny that there is any hindrance or refusal of justice. The payment of taxes, to the extent of 10*s.* per annum for a freeholder and 20*s.* for a rent-payer, qualifies the party to vote. Is this a denial of political rights?

Having thus briefly touched upon the several subjects alluded to by Dr Underhill, I must remark upon the mischief that arises in the practice of obeahism; and I am satisfied that the villanous extent to which this system of poisoning is carried may be traced to the circumstance that no medical practitioner resides in the mountain district of this parish; consequently no professional aid can be obtained in sickness, and the dread in which these obeahmen are held is surprising. The common result of a quarrel is an appeal to or the threat of an obeahman. Some three years back I strongly impressed upon my magistrates and many respectable black freeholders the necessity of desiring the labourers to give information upon the slightest suspicion of poisoning, and I generally find an opportunity in attending the quarterly vestries to make some strong observations upon the subject; the labourers and others who attend the court-house upon these occasions freely converse with me upon the importance of suppressing so odious and diabolical a practice.

I have taken considerable pains to impress upon parents the necessity of sending their children to school, and to be regular in the weekly attendance. Large meetings have been addressed by me, and promises made, and for a few weeks the attendance is pretty fair; but as a general rule it is lamentable to witness the utter indifference of the parents to the necessity of educating their offspring. They consider it a hardship and grievance to give up two or three little children for four days in the week, preferring to have them in and about their huts, following them to their provision fields, wasting and idling their time. I am clearly of opinion that unless some inducement can be held out, or a compulsory system adopted, to train the young children, we can never hope for any improvement in the moral and social state of the negro. Crime, if it does not increase, is not likely to be lessened. And we shall continue to retrograde, with the dangerous element of freedom intermixed with vice and immorality. A very gloomy picture for the future of this Colony.

The suggestions of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State are better suited for discussion in the House of Assembly than in a despatch.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Government Secretary.

(Signed) STEPHEN W. MAIS,
Custos of the Parish of Port Royal.

A RETURN of the Number of Petty Debt Summonses, Warrants, and other Proceedings issued from the Office of the Clerk of the Peace for the parish of Port Royal for the years 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864.

PROCEEDINGS.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
Summonses - - -	98	89	139	129	79	534	
Distress Warrants - -	65	55	49	43	28	240	
Adverse Claims - -	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Assignments - - -	—	—	—	—	5	5	
Subpœnas - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	
No. of Judgments recorded -	98	89	92	101	72	452	

Dated the 20th day of March 1865,

By order of his honour the Custos.

(Signed) A. H. DRUMMOND,
Clerk of the Peace for the parish of Port Royal.

STATEMENT of Amounts granted for the relief of Paupers in the parish of Port Royal.

		£	s.	d.
1859 and 1860 -	Amount allowed -	200	0	0
1860 and 1861 -	Do. -	250	0	0
1861 and 1862 -	Do. -	280	0	0
1862 and 1863 -	Do. -	350	0	0
1863 and 1864 -	Do. -	350	0	0
1864 and 1865 -	Do. -	350	0	0

By order of his honour the Custos.

(Signed) THEODORE DEPUIS,
Clerk of the Vestry for the parish of Port Royal.

Enclosure 6 in No. 21.

Mr. BICKNELL to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Kingston, May 1, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to enclose my report made by command of his Excellency the Governor on the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State.

I have, &c.

Hugh W. Austin, Esq., Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) HENRY J. BICKNELL,
Police Magistrate.

REPORT of the Police Magistrate of Kingston on the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State, made by command of his Excellency the Governor.

It is unquestionably true that the crime of larceny has increased of late to a lamentable and ruinous extent, but the statement that the increase is due to the destitution of the people arising from want of employment cannot be confirmed by my experience.

That there has been considerable distress, and that such distress is likely to be prolonged and intensified by the severe drought with which a large portion of the Island has been and still continues to be afflicted, is not to be denied; but such a result arising from such a cause is not peculiar to Jamaica, nor is the distress confined to or felt in its greatest severity by the class who form the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter.

In the city of Kingston, to which my experience and observations are principally confined, the increase in the number of offences other than larceny is also very great. Offences, that is, which, although triable in the inferior courts, show by their numbers and character a state of society far from satisfactory, and the more unsatisfactory because the increase is not accidental, but has been progressive during the last four years, rising yearly from 790 summary trials in 1861 to 1,438 in 1864.

These numbers include cases of larceny of property not exceeding 10*l.* in value. The great crying evil, namely, the larceny of growing produce, is scarcely known in the parish of Kingston, where very little agriculture is carried on; but the larceny of small stock is practised to a great extent, and causes much suffering among the humbler classes.

The other offences are principally assault and disorderly conduct and language in public, offensive to propriety and decency, and indicative of a very loose state of morals. Whatever may be said with respect to the causes of the increase of the crime of larceny, it cannot with any plausibility be urged that the other offences named are caused by extreme poverty or destitution.

I cannot speak with authority, not having much personal experience on the subject, on the much controverted question of wages in the agricultural districts, but in Kingston the wages of domestic servants, especially of females, are certainly low. The wages of the men average from 6*s.* to 8*s.* per week, of females from 3*s.* to 5*s.*, out of which they have very frequently to provide themselves with

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food and lodging, and almost always with clothing. To any one unacquainted with their habits, and not knowing how few are their wants, and how easily satisfied (too easily so for their own good or the public welfare), it would seem a mystery how they could subsist on such pay, yet of all the numerous cases of larceny which have come before the courts I remember none where it has appeared that the offender was tempted to the commission of the crime by destitution.

It may be and probably is true that owing to the commercial depression that exists employment is sometimes difficult to be had; but the difficulty of procuring industrious and trustworthy servants is equally great. On the whole, of all the admitted idleness that exists among this class, which may be said to lead to destitution and thence on to crime, I believe there is very little which can be said to be compulsory.

That there is much distress and suffering in Kingston arising from want of adequate employment is unfortunately very true, but it exists among a class of persons of a higher social position; distress not the less keen and not the less deserving of sympathy because it is borne with unobtrusive resignation.

I see nothing of the raggedness and nakedness of condition repulsive to a sense of decency said to exist among the people, nor any diminution of their inordinate love of dress and finery, or of the means (however acquired) of gratifying it.

If destitution were the cause of crime in the majority of cases there would be some indication of it in the offenders in the shape of emaciation or disease, whereas there are to be seen at the Penitentiary in Kingston between 600 and 700 convicts, nine tenths of whom are men and women between the ages of 18 and 40, in the full vigour of health and strength, not often attained to within the walls of the institution.

I do not know in what respects the coloured population are unjustly or unequally taxed, or just tribunals or political rights denied to them. I cannot resist the conviction, however, that it would have been far better for the interests of all classes of society in the Island if some portion of the sums which since the emancipation have been lavished upon immigration schemes, properly described as "abortive" in many instances, had been applied towards the education of the emancipated classes, and to endeavouring to instil into them a feeling of laudable ambition and habits of industry and self-reliance. The consequences of leaving the emancipated slave on his liberation from slavery almost entirely to himself are now being developed. In too many instances he has been made use of for the furtherance of their own questionable and selfish ends by those who knew his plastic nature, and how easily he can be moulded to good or evil purposes; nor would it be deemed by those who have had his true interests most at heart a misfortune to him if the exercise of his "political rights" were withheld from him until he had unlearned the lesson he has been taught, that the "rights" in question consist in the readiness to regard and the ability to treat his vote as a commercial commodity at the disposal of the highest bidder.

With respect to the refusal of just tribunals, although the courts of justice are as accessible to the labouring as to all other classes, with the sole hindrance that poverty imposes upon all in common, yet I do not think, after an experience of nearly nine years, that the new judicial system is an improvement on the old, when the parochial court of quarter sessions and common pleas presided over by men of legal education existed. There were intermediate courts of limited jurisdiction to which there was ready access, and where justice was promptly administered at a trifling expense. I believe their abolition has been a great evil, felt by all classes, but more especially by those of the humbler class. Under the present system all questions not within the jurisdiction of the petty sessions, which is limited to cases of ordinary contract not exceeding 10*l.*, and of "tort" to the amount of 40*s.*, have to be referred to the supreme and circuit courts, at an expense which is often ruinous. The consequence is that the poor man is often debarred from seeking justice, and the rich man often victimized by speculative lawsuits.

If it be objected that justice may have been often defeated in the parochial courts by local prejudice arising from private discussion of local disputes, the answer is, that the new system has not cured the evil, as witness the numerous applications to the supreme court successfully made for changes of venue (even in criminal cases, a thing unheard of under the old system,) on account of local prejudice. At all events, even when justice was defeated, the consequences under the old system were not so damaging as now to the suitors.

There is a very simple and practicable remedy for this evil. Let all actions for damages not exceeding 30*l.*, the extent of the jurisdiction of the old courts of common pleas, be taken altogether out of the supreme court, and the suitors be compelled to bring them in the parishes where the cause of action arises or the parties reside. The process could issue from the office of the clerk of the peace, and the judgments and proceedings be kept and registered there. Let the rules and practice of the courts of common pleas with respect to pleading, &c. be restored, and give to the attornies equal audience with the bar in all such actions. If points of law are to be discussed, let them be argued before the judge on circuit, instead of in the supreme court, according to the present practice. This alteration would impose very little, if any, additional labour on the judges, and it has this recommendation, that it interferes with no vested rights. It would reduce the expense of litigation to an amount within the compass of every man's means, and it would render speculative lawsuits less damaging to the sufferers. In proof of the correctness of my views I may instance my own experience. I was the taxing officer of the courts of common pleas in Kingston for many years before their abolition. and I do not remember a single instance where the bill of costs in the most warmly contested cause ever exceeded 10*l.*, and they seldom amounted to so much.

Many of the topics dwelt upon by Dr. Underhill would lead into a field of discussion and barren controversy upon which it is beyond my province to enter. I have therefore confined myself principally to those portions of his letter which have reference to the state of crime and the cause of its increase as it comes under my observation. Before concluding, however, I should remark that the increase of crime in Kingston is principally in respect to petty larcenies and the other offences I have named; but crimes of great enormity, such as homicide, felonious assaults, burglaries, &c., are not numerous, on the average, in the city, and this is the more remarkable, and so far satisfactory, when it is

remembered that Kingston is a seaport, the resort of the idle and ill-disposed from all parts of the Island, and sometimes from foreign parts; that the principal prison of the Island is there; and that it is ill-guarded, and without a solitary lamp in its streets and lanes.

That there is a great deal of moral depravity, and that it is increasing, is undeniable, for the criminal records prove it, and it is equally undeniable that much of it is attributable to idleness, but not to idleness that is involuntary.

HENRY J. BICKNELL,
Police Magistrate, Kingston.

1st May 1865.

Enclosure 7 in No. 21.

The Rev. Mr. EDMONSON to Mr. AUSTIN.

HON. SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, April 20, 1865.

I HAVE been honoured with his Excellency the Governor's circular of March 13th, and have submitted certain questions to the Wesleyan ministers in various parts of the Island, with the intention of obtaining the most accurate information on the important subjects contained therein in connexion with Dr. Underhill's letter to the Hon. E. Cardwell.

I was favoured with an interview with Dr. Underhill when he was in this Island, and regard him as a gentleman of high intellectual attainments and great moral worth, and would not oppose his statements without giving them due consideration; yet it is possible he may have been misinformed on one or two points, and that he may have overdrawn his picture in consequence.

My present information does not enable me to confirm the intimation that the coloured population are unjustly taxed, and that they are refused just tribunals; nor that the political rights of the emancipated negroes are denied to them. So far as I have been able to observe, the laws have entirely disregarded colour, and placed every man in the same circumstances. How far those laws govern the country courts, when masters or servants appeal to the justices, I am not in circumstances to determine; but I think that if stipendiary magistrates had been continued the decisions in many cases might have been much more satisfactory than they are often reported to have been. I think also that litigation would be discouraged, and the interests of the peasantry much better promoted, if the clerks of the magistrates, and others employed in the administration of justice, had a fixed salary and no other emolument. The perquisites of office act in too many instances as a stimulant to provoke strife.

There is great distress among the labouring classes; many have to live on the coarsest food, and can scarcely obtain a sufficient quantity of that; and numbers of the aged and sick are in a starving condition.

When from home they make a decent appearance; but hundreds, I may say thousands, are kept from Divine service, and are unable to send their children to school, for want of suitable clothing; and this is attributed to the smallness of income, and the high price of goods consequent on the American war. The houses in which they live are very small; and do not admit of sufficient sleeping accommodation for the sexes; and this engenders loose and immoral practices.

The pinchings of hunger, and the sight of starving families, have probably tempted some men, who in past times have sustained good characters, to petty theft; and when once committed the snare has become greater, and habitual dishonesty has followed. Yet I think a large number of those committed for larceny are habitually idle and dissolute, and steal because unwilling to work. It is quite true that the lower classes are fond of dress, and will make many sacrifices to obtain it. When they appear in places of worship, in the markets, and at courts of law, they are moderately attired; but the texture of their garments is thin and coarse, and there is reason to believe that they are few in number. When unexpectedly visited in their houses, the adults are seen in tattered garments, the children are scarcely covered, and some of the little ones are in a state of nudity.

I have often been perplexed between the statements of employers and labourers; many of the former say they cannot obtain labourers, and immigration has been regarded as necessary for the working of large properties. Yet some of the planters affirm that they can obtain as many hands as they want, but intimate that they pay a fair price, and settle with their labourers at stated times according to agreement.

On the other hand, a large number of labourers assert that they cannot obtain work at all. When living at a distance from sugar estates some of them have left home on Sunday to be in time to commence work on the Monday morning; and yet numbers have failed, and had to return home unemployed.

I am of opinion, after many years of inquiry and observation, that the majority are willing to work and glad to be employed when fairly treated. Generally the remuneration is 1*s.* per day for a strong man, 9*d.* for a woman, and 6*d.* or 4½*d.* for a boy or girl. Job work has for some time been substituted for day labour; but it is said that in many cases the fields are longer neglected, and the work greater, and the pay smaller than in former times. On some properties a few are employed throughout the year; but the masses are only wanted about eight out of the twelve months.

The general impression is that the people are much poorer now than they were five or six years ago. This may have been caused by the abandonment, to a large extent, of sugar and coffee cultivation, and to the discouragement of small cultivators by the depredations of the idle and dishonest, and the suffering is intensified by the long and still continued drought. But want of capital and of enterprise in some, and indolent habits and prevalent immorality in others, have also contributed largely to the present suffering. Yet while large numbers have grown poorer, and are almost in a state of destitution, a few have improved in their circumstances, and are likely to rise to respectability.

But besides the labourers there is another class whose circumstances should be represented. Many of these, once in comfortable circumstances, have not been brought up to hard labour, and are incapable of agricultural pursuits, and have not a friend who can afford them help. Hundreds of females in this city and in other parishes are obliged to eke out a miserable existence by sewing, and of

this very little can be obtained, even at a low rate of remuneration. This is well known to those who occasionally visit them in their homes, habitually miss them in places of public worship, and witness the eagerness to obtain employment when offered by public institutions.

The importation, on a large scale, of ready-made clothing, the introduction of the sewing machine, and the contracted income of better circumstanced families, militate seriously against the comforts of this class.

Ground provisions have risen in price, but the increase varies in different parts of the country, and it may be fairly doubted whether this has or has not contributed to the present distress. The scarcity which has caused the increase of price may have arisen from drought, from the depredations of the idle, and from the neglect of cultivation consequent on the discouragement which repeated acts of plunder have subjected the people to.

Forty-three years ago I sailed from England for the West Indies, and during the whole of my residence in the Colonies I have avoided political controversies. But now the sufferings of Jamaica forbid continued silence, especially as the Governor invites an expression of opinion.

Dr. Underhill's suggestions numbered 1, 2, 3 are worthy of serious consideration; but I think the people should not be discouraged from the cultivation of sugar, either to supply their own wants, or for sale on the Island, or even for exportation, if they wish to try their skill in that line.

The trial of a few years will convince them whether it is likely to be remunerative or unprofitable; and if an evil it will soon cure itself.

The Legislature should in the next session, if possible, offer adequate encouragement to English and other capitalists to come and settle in the Island, for the purpose of cultivating the thousands of acres of virgin and other lands now in a state of abandonment. Unfortunately Jamaica is scarcely anything but an agricultural and grazing country; almost without manufactures of any kind; and if the land be not cultivated the inhabitants cannot live. Many of the former proprietors have sold their estates, and retired, and if these properties are ever to be cultivated again a sufficient encouragement must be offered to gentlemen who have means sufficient for the undertaking.

Encouragement should be offered to companies or associations, who would undertake to purchase large properties, and sell or rent proportions of them to the labouring classes, on such terms as will be likely to secure more general cultivation. If this do not accord with the views of large proprietors, it will lessen the complaint of want of work, make vegetables and other products more plentiful, and greatly increase the exports. I have long been of opinion that a large increase of small freeholders would tend greatly to the prosperity of the Island, if protected by salutary laws.

If the educational grant can be increased, on the condition of agricultural pursuits being joined with general instruction, and this in connexion with the use of such machinery as science has produced and is producing for the better cultivation of the soil, the benefit would in a few years be great to the planting and other interests.

Railways for the transit of goods and passengers, as in other civilized countries, are worthy of the serious consideration of the Government.

But it may be said that the country cannot bear extra taxation for the carrying out of these and other desirable measures. That taxation cannnot be safely increased I readily admit; but are there not items in the general expenditure that might be gradually decreased and ultimately abandoned? I mention one alluded to by several of my correspondents. If all the churches can become self-supporting, tens of thousands of pounds per annum would be saved to our distressed and almost perishing Colony.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Government Secretary.

(Signed) JON. EDMONDSON.

Encl. 8 in No. 21.

Enclosure 8 in No. 21.

The Rev. A. L. THAELER to Governor EYRE.

To his Excellency J. Eyre, Esq., Captain General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and its Dependencies, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a circular, dated Governor's Secretary's Office, 13th March 1865, addressed to the Rev. A. Clemens, Superintendent of the Moravian Missions in Jamaica, to which circular it becomes my duty, as successor of the Rev. A. Clemens, to reply.

The circular had reference to and was accompanied by a copy of a letter from Mr. Underhill, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, addressed to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, representing the distressed condition of the labouring classes in Jamaica, and said circular desires the Superintendent of the Moravian Missions in this Island to express his opinion as to how far the remarks contained in Mr. Underhill's letter are applicable to the labouring classes of the districts in which the Moravian missionaries labour.

I must offer an apology for the delay of my reply, which was owing to the wish of embracing the opportunity afforded on the 19th instant, when the Moravian missionaries met for general conference, to ascertain their individual opinions upon the subject.

I may be allowed to preface my remarks by stating that the number of adult persons in connexion with the Moravian Mission at the close of the year 1864 numbered 7,524, inhabiting the parishes of Manchester, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, and St. James.

1. In reference to the question of wages paid to the labouring classes, we reply that these have gradually decreased within the last few years. The average rate paid at the present time for ordinary labour is 1*s.* per day to males, and 9*d.* per day to females, they being expected to provision themselves. Tradesmen's wages rate from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* per day. Comparatively few of the people in connexion with us have the advantage of continuous labour; only occasionally can they obtain work, and hence are chiefly dependant upon growing ground provisions for the market. There are not sufficient

facilities afforded them for exportation of produce saleable in the English market; while occasional attempts to take advantage of their necessities have in great measure destroyed their confidence in the merchants who are ready to purchase exportable produce from them.

2. The prices of ground provisions have not risen above the amount paid in former years. If such were the case it would rather tend to the advantage of the class under consideration than otherwise, they being themselves the producers, except in the case of comparatively few still located on sugar estates.

3. We do not think that the peasantry generally are less well off now than in former years. Their Sunday attire is equal to that of former times. We do not find that want of decent clothing is any cause of decrease in the number attending public worship on the Sabbath. The very high price of ordinary wearing apparel, consequent upon the advance in the price of cotton, necessisates the labouring man to economise clothing in his family. Cases of raggedness and nudity, as represented to be the condition of vast numbers, are not known to us, beyond the average of former years, and found only among the idle and vagrant. Our schools are, with very slight difference, as well attended by decently clad children as formerly. We consider the remark contained in the "Extract" from the speech of the Hon. A. Whitelocke in reference to children under 10 years of age exaggerated.

4. The commission of crime, particularly that of petty larceny, has manifestly increased within the last 10 or 12 years. To ministers of the Gospel who, besides imparting religious instruction, give special attention to the morals of the people, the chief cause thereof is plainly evident. The root of it is not found in the poverty of the people, but in that which induced poverty in the case of such offenders. These are but seldom found to be heads of families, with dependants upon them for maintenance; but nine tenths of these offenders are persons under 30 years of age. We are of decided opinion that crime has increased in proportion to the number of shops licensed for retail of spiritous liquors, and these latter have greatly multiplied within late years. At those places various amusements are provided for the purpose of attracting the young people, and thus many become habitual loiterers about the rum shops, and besides habits of intemperance being thereby formed, idleness, the usual result of intemperance, is induced, and this prompts them to acts of dishonesty.

These licensed establishments are in many cases dens of iniquity, and not only destructive to morality in general but also antagonistic to religious influence.

We would respectfully suggest that the number of licences for the sale of spirituous liquors be limited to the actual necessities of the population, if such necessity does exist.

We, at the same time, would beg leave to express our conviction that raising the charge for licence has no doubt increased the revenue derived from that source; but that it has not diminished, in any perceptible degreee, the haunts of vice and promoters of crime.

We gladly avail ourselves of the invitation given to offer some suggestions for the general improvement of the labouring classes.

a. That the Island Legislature should provide more extensive aid than hitherto for the education of the people.

b. Inducements should be held out to young men to apprentice themselves to trades, such as carpenters, cabinet-makers, masons, smiths, &c., &c., by awarding a premium to such who have served a fixed period of time as apprentices, and have acquired a thorough knowledge and practice of their trade. The country is now already suffering from the paucity of competent tradesmen, and will under existing practice ere long be without this necessary class of men.

c. That more attention be paid to the formation of new interior roads, and the repair of those already existing, as a very large proportion of the peasantry are without these necessary facilities to enable them to bring their produce to the port of shipping. Due attention to this want would encourage cultivation on the part of the small settler.

d. Annual parochial agricultural and industrial exhibitions, for the peasantry exclusively, to induce competition in those pursuits, and awarding suitable prizes to the most successful.

I am, &c.

Fairfield, April 24, 1865. (Signed) A. L. THAELER.

Enclosure 9 in No. 21.

Encl. 9 in No. 21.

Memorandum for his Excellency the Governor.

From 1834 to 1840 there were introduced to the Island English, and German, Irish, and Scotch immigrants, about	1,200
From 1844 up to 1847 The number of coolies was	4,551
From 1859 to 1863 The number introduced was	4,635
The number of Africans about	5,000
„ Portuguese immigrants about	1,000
„ Chinese immigrants about	600
	16,986

N.B. Of the first coolies introduced up to 1846,7, 1,463 returned to India, 1,491 accepted the bounty, and 1,597 either died or were otherwise unaccounted for.

(Signed) W. M. ANDERSON, A.G.I.

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Encl. 10 in No. 21.

Enclosure 10 in No. 21.

The Reverend Mr. PHILLIPPO to the Governor.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, Spanish Town, August 30, 1864.

HAVING been appointed waywarden on a part of the road leading to Highgate in this parish, by the board of commissioners of highways and bridges, I have endeavoured to obtain labourers to repair the great damage sustained to the said road by the late floods; the small sum of thirty pounds having been granted by your Excellency in Executive Committee in aid of such repairs.

I regret to say, that owing as I believe to a combination on the part of some of the labourers resident in the immediate locality, and fear on the part of others, they persist in demanding from 2*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per diem each for the work.

As this demand, especially under the circumstances existing, cannot but be regarded as unreasonable, I have steadily refused to yield to it, the more so from the persuasion that if complied with in this instance it would lead to similar demands in future on the occurrence of our common periodical floods.

Under these circumstances I have thought it right to request the favour of your Excellency in Executive Committee to allow a gang of the workhouse negroes to perform the required labour, within the limits at least of the fourth mile stone from the town, on payment of the usual demand for their labour per diem.

I make this request in the persuasion that the employment of the workhouse people under the circumstances would have a salutary influence upon the labourers thus disposed to take advantage of the late calamity, as well as expedite the repairs, as the road is still almost impassable for foot passengers, and really dangerous to the limbs and lives of passengers on horseback.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. PHILLIPPO.

To his Excellency the Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 11 in No. 21.

Enclosure 11 in No. 21.

Mr. CLARK to the Governor.

SIR, New Lunatic Asylum, May 8, 1865.

I RECEIVED your letter directing me to furnish a statement of the rates of wages paid to the hands employed on the King's House Works.

In answer, sir, I beg to state that the rates were as follows:—

	s.	*d.*		£	*s.*	*d.*	
First-rate carpenters	3	4	per day	1	0	0	per week.
Second-rate ditto	3	0	„	0	18	0	„
Third ditto	2	6	„	0	15	0	„
First-rate bricklayers	3	0	„	0	18	0	„
First-rate painters	3	6	„	1	1	0	„
Second-rate ditto	3	0	„	0	18	0	„
Paperhangers	5	0	„	1	10	0	„
First-rate cabinet-makers	3	6	„	1	1	0	„
Second-rate ditto	3	4	„	1	0	0	„
Third-rate ditto	2	6	„	0	15	0	„
Polishers of furniture	4	0	„	1	4	0	„
Plumbers	4	0	„	1	4	0	„
Glaziers	2	6	„	0	15	0	„
Mattrass makers, by piece work, averaging	3	6	„	1	1	0	„
Seamstresses	1	6	„	0	9	0	„
Male labourers	1	3	„	0	7	6	„
Female ditto	1	0	„	0	6	0	„

Carpenters on piece work did not make so much as days' workmen, as the slowest and weakest men were selected for that purpose.

In the foregoing rates I have not included foremen, who of course were rated higher. Trusting the above may prove satisfactory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. CLARKE.

Encl. 12 in No. 21.

Enclosure 12 in No 21.

Mr. HOSACK's remarks on the letter from the Baptists.

I have read the letter from the Baptists on Mr. Underhill's communication. It consists of 25 pages of large paper. I consider that many important points raised in it have been treated in a most illogical manner.

Immigration is condemned. Measures to develop the resources of the country are recommended. The general idleness and vice of the native population are admitted and excused.

It must not be forgotten that the Baptist encouraged the labourers to leave the estates immediately after freedom, thinking they would turn their labour to better account on their own lands. The result has proved the reverse. The people have degenerated in the bush, and certainly live in worse houses than formerly, and are further from church, schools, markets, doctors, police, gaols, and judges; and further from the estates on which they worked than formerly, so that to a great extent they are now experiencing the truth of the proverb, "out of sight out of mind."

The Church is also attacked without reserve. The clergy of Jamaica are under paid as a body, considering the climate and cost of living. The bishop is under paid by half; he has not the means of keeping up the position he should occupy among about 100 clergy. I speak of the Bishop of Kingston. It is true that several of the clergy are inefficient from various causes; but the population of Jamaica look more to the Established Church now than they did, and this is one reason why a feeling of jealousy has arisen against it, I suspect.

It is capable of exercising still greater influence than it does, in my opinion.

I have only looked at portions of the schedules. Many of the statements in them are very questionable.

(Signed) WM. HOSACK.

6th May 1865.

No. 22. No. 22.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart., to EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, Esq., LL.D.

SIR, Downing Street, August 5, 1865.

WITH reference to your letter of the 5th, and to the answer from this office of the 27th January last,* I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to inform you that a careful inquiry has been made into the allegations contained in your letter respecting the condition of Jamaica, and that the state of the peasantry, as disclosed by that inquiry, is a matter which has received and will continue to receive the anxious attention of the Government of the Colony, but that it does not appear that they are suffering from any general or continuous distress from which they would not be at once relieved by settled industry.

* Pages 1 & 3.

I have, &c.

Edward B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 23. No. 23.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 132.) King's House, May 17, 1865.

SIR, (Answered, No. 233, June 29, 1865, page 192.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit a communication which has been presented to me for the purpose, containing certain resolutions which have been passed at a public meeting held in Kingston in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter.

Mr. Gordon to Secretary of State, 3 May 1865.

I also enclose a copy of a letter from the custos of the parish, to whom these resolutions were referred.

Resolutions passed 3 May 1865.

Dr. Bowerbank states that the meeting was altogether of a party character, and does not represent the sentiments, interests, or intelligence of the really thriving and respectable black and coloured population of the city and parish.

Dr. Bowerbank to Mr. Austin, 15 May 1865.

2. The resolutions themselves do not call for any comment from me, after the full manner in which I have already reported in former despatches, in reference to Dr. Underhill's communication.

You will observe, however, that the 15 resolutions calls upon the descendants of Africa throughout the Island to form societies and hold meetings, and co-operate for the purpose of setting forth their grievances.

There are always a number of political demagogues ready to stir up the people to a belief of imaginary wrongs; and I can only repeat the opinion that I expressed in my Despatch No. 117† of 25th ultimo, that Dr. Underhill's letter will be productive of much evil to this Colony, by unsettling the minds of the peasantry, and making them discontented.

† Page 135.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 23. Encl. 1 in No. 23.

To the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

HONOURABLE SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, May 3, 1865.

AT a public meeting duly convened at the New Court-house in the city of Kingston, in accordance with a numerously signed requisition to the Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B., Mayor, on Wednesday the 3d day of May 1865,

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It was unanimously adopted that the resolutions of the said meeting be forwarded to your address, through his Excellency the Governor, Edward John Eyre, Esq., and that you will be pleased officially to lay the same before Her Majesty in Council, with the view of eliciting cordial sympathy in reference to our distressed condition, in the hope that remedial measures be initiated, having for their object the amelioration of the condition of the masses in the Island generally.

We have, &c.

GEO. W. GORDON,
Chairman of the Meeeting.

W. KELLY SMITH,
Secretary.

Encl. 2 in No. 23.

Enclosure 2 in No. 23.

Copy for the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Kingston, May 3, 1865.

IN accordance with a numerously signed requisition to the Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B., Mayor of Kingston, a public meeting was duly convened at the New Court-house in this city, at 3 o'clock on Wednesday evening the 3d May 1865.

It was moved by the Rev. James Roach, that George William Gordon, Esq., be requested to take the chair, which was seconded by Mr. William Kelly Smith, and carried unanimously.

It was also proposed that Mr. William Kelly Smith be appointed secretary, after which the chairman requested that gentleman to read the requisition convening the meeting by the Mayor of Kingston, and after a few preliminary remarks from the chair the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by the Rev. Edwin Palmer,
Seconded by Mr. James H. Hamilton.

Resolved 1st.—That the thanks of this meeting are due to Almighty God for His preserving mercies vouchsafed to us as a people since the period of emancipation, seeing that, notwithstanding the many difficulties and obstacles that have been thrown in our way, we have been permitted to struggle on and wait until a merciful Providence appears to be opening up our pathway to better days.

Moved by Rev. John H. Crole,
Seconded by Mr. Robert Wiltshire.

Resolved 2d.—That we acknowledge the hand of Almighty God in the protracted drought under which our land now suffers, and we feel disappointed that the authorities did not set apart a day for general fasting and prayer, and the supplicating of God's mercies.

Moved by Mr. Edward Duaney,
Seconded by Mr. Charles Crarey.

Resolved 3d.—That this meeting would exhibit to the world its appreciation of the correctness and truthfulness of the statements of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to the distressed condition of the labouring population of this Island.

Moved by Mr. Frederick Miller,
Seconded by Mr. John Aguilar.

Resolved 4th.—That this meeting considers the letter of Dr. Underhill a gracious interference, and a stimulus to our expression touching the burden of the masses, as it respects the want of employment, and the unhappy state of those who through such want are without the means of procuring the common necessaries of life.

Moved by Mr. Samuel Clarke,
Seconded by Mr. George Graham.

Resolved 5th.—That it is the solemn conviction of this meeting that the time has arrived when the masses of the people of this country must speak out their woes, labouring as they do under many wrongs and disabilities arising out of class legislation and other maladministrations which it is their interest and duty to endeavour to overcome in every constitutional way possible.

Moved by Mr. Emanuel Joseph Goldson,
Seconded by Mr. John McCook.

Resolved 6th.—That in keeping with the foregoing resolution we may instance the Election Law, the Whipping Bill, and also the Law of Assault, which places an individual for common assault in the common felon's prison, at the option of the presiding magistrate, thus causing the individual so sentenced to be damaged for life. Also that a Penitentiary in the city is a growing evil, inasmuch as the labour of the convict is brought into competition with and takes the place of that of the honest tradesman, takes the bread out of the poor man's mouth, tends to demoralize him, and thus reduces him in turn, necessarily, to a criminal condition.

Moved by Mr. Thomas Harry,
Seconded by Mr. Robert Miller.

Resolved 7th.—That this meeting deems it right to set forth its complaint against the importation of ready-made articles into the Colony at the same rate of ad-valorem duty as on raw materials, thereby making it impossible for tradesmen, artisans, and needlewomen to find profitable employment.

Moved by Mr. Charles Clarke,
Seconded by Mr. William Smith, junior.

Resolved 8th.—That this meeting is of opinion that at the present low rate of wages it will be impossible for the middle and labouring classes to contribute to the wants of their family and the support of religion, unless some prompt measures of relief be brought forward.

Moved by Mr. William Smith, senior,
Seconded by Mr. Edward Brown.

Resolved 9th.—That this meeting views with serious alarm the distress now prevailing to so great an extent in the Colony, and thinks it a matter that deserves the prompt and serious action not only of our local government but also that of the mother country.

Moved by Mr. John O'Brien,
Seconded by Mr. Richard Windal.

Resolved 10th.—That this meeting, whilst it glories in the many blessings conferred on us by the constitution under which we live, and being quite conscious of the loyalty which swells the heart of each individual, yet cannot but mourn that total absence of a proper regard towards us by those very persons who have from time to time been elected to represent our interests in our Colonial Parliament.

Moved by Mr. William Kelly Smith,
Seconded by Mr. Thomas Brown.

Resolved 11th.—That we view with thorough dissatisfaction the hundreds of thousands of pounds wrung out of an impoverished people, and wasted on immigration, punitive measures, and otherwise, and the systematic abnegation of every principle involving the education of the masses, and other measures of a preventive and ameliorating character.

Moved by Mr. Emanuel Joseph Goldson,
Seconded by Mr. Christopher Pike.

Resolved 12th.—That this meeting, whilst appreciating the movememt of our friends in England, gratefully acknowledges the same to be a most important one, calculated to obviate a great calamity long and painfully felt, at the same time assuring us that there are still those philanthropic feelings towards us which actuated the veterans of emancipation in securing to us our most sacred privileges, and promises to enlist its most active exertions in furnishing them with such information as may be necessary to sustain their position in opposition to injustice and wrong.

Moved by Mr. George Augustus Hynds,
Seconded by Mr. John Gibb, surgeon.

Resolved 13th.—That this meeting considers it a duty devolving on it, as also on all the poorer classes throughout Jamaica, to tender to Dr. Underhill their sincere and hearty thanks for his kind interposition and prompt interference on their behalf.

Moved by the Reverend James F. Roach,
Seconded by Mr. James K. Pusey.

Resolved 14th.—That this meeting heartily deprecates the course taken by some of our island press, in impugning the motives of Dr. Underhill, and also those of the Baptist missionaries who first moved in the matter, but believe that the course pursued by these latter is calculated to secure the best interests of all classes in the Island.

Moved by Mr. Robert Wiltshire,
Seconded by Mr. J. B. Armstrong.

Resolved 15th.—That in keeping with the foregoing resolutions this meeting calls upon all the descendants of Africa in every parish throughout the Island to form themselves into societies, and hold public meetings, and co-operate for the purpose of setting forth their grievances, especially now, when our philanthropic friends in England are leading the way.

Moved by Mr. William L. Ryan,
Seconded by Mr. Alexander Grey.

Resolved 16th.—That the resolutions of this meeting be addressed and respectfully presented by a deputation appointed by the chairman to his Excellency the Governor, to be by him transmitted to Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies; and also that a copy be forwarded to Dr. Underhill, and that the same be signed by the chairman and secretary on behalf of this meeting.

The following gentlemen were appointed the deputation:—

Rev. Edwin Palmer.	Mr. J. B. Armstrong.
Rev. James F. Roach.	Rev. J. H. Crole.
Mr. Samuel Clarke.	Mr. J. Aguilar.
Mr. Thomas Harry.	Mr. Emanuel J. Goldson.
Mr. John O'Brien.	Mr. William Smith, senior.
Mr. John Gibb, surgeon.	Mr. William Kelly Smith.
Mr. Edward Pinnock.	Mr. George Augustus Hynds.
Mr. Robert Miller.	Mr. George Graham.
Mr. Charles Clarke.	Mr. W. H. Barclay.
Mr. Edward Duaney.	Mr. James H. Hamilton.

Moved by Mr. Edward Duaney,
Seconded by Mr. George Graham.

Resolved 17th.—That the resolutions of this meeting be published twice in the newspapers throughout the Colony.

Moved by Mr. William Kelly Smith,
Seconded by Mr. Thomas Harry.

Resolved 18th.—That a vote of thanks be tendered to George William Gordon, esq., for his impartial conduct in presiding over the affairs of this meeting, and that three cheers be given in honour of our

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most gracious Majesty the Queen, and the philanthropists of Great Britain, for their watchfulness over the interests of the people in this Colony, whom they, in their magnanimity, emancipated 26 years ago.

GEO. W. GORDON,
Chairman of the Meeting.
W. KELLY SMITH,
Secretary.

Encl. 3 in No. 23.

Enclosure 3 in No. 23.

Dr. BOWERBANK to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Kingston, May 15, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication No. 803, of the date of the 11th instant, enclosing a printed copy of resolutions passed at a meeting held in this city on the evening of the 3d instant, with a request that I will report on the document and meeting from which it emanated, for his Excellency's information.

I do not consider that the resolutions themselves require any comments which would not have already suggested themselves to his Excellency's mind, the more so as I have recently expressed my opinion as to the correctness of Dr. Underhill's statements as set forth in his letter to the Colonial Minister.

The resolutions in question profess to emanate from a meeting identified with the class long ago emancipated from slavery; but on looking at the names of the several speakers I am bound to state that the meeting is in my opinion altogether of a party character, and does not, even to the most inconsiderable extent, represent the sentiments, interests, or intelligence of the really thriving and respectable black and coloured population of this city and parish.

I am, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin. (Signed) LEWIS Q. BOWERBANK, Custos.

No. 24.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 233.)

SIR, Downing Street, June 29, 1865.

* Page 189.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 132* of the 17th of May, enclosing a letter addressed to me by Mr. Gordon, forwarding the resolutions of a meeting held at Kingston relative to Dr. Underhill's letter.

I request that you will inform Mr. Gordon that the resolutions have been received.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 133.) King's House, May 17, 1865.

SIR, (Received, June 16, 1865.)

† Page 189.

REFERRING to my Despatch No. 132† of even date, transmitting certain resolutions passed at a public meeting held in Kingston in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter, I think it right to mention that the individuals who appear most prominently at that meeting are Mr. George William Gordon, chairman, and Mr. William Kelly Smith, secretary.

2. Mr. G. W. Gordon is already well known at the Colonial Office as having been removed from the Commission of the Peace, and as being the most consistent and untiring obstructor of the public business in the House of Assembly, of which he is a member.

Mr. W. K. Smith's character may be justly estimated from a communication addressed to me by himself, which was transmitted to the Duke of Newcastle in my Despatch No. 46 of the 7th February 1863.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 26.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 135.) King's House, May 23, 1865.
(Received, June 16, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered No. 270, August 11, 1865, page 195.)

SINCE writing my Despatch No. 128* of the 6th instant, I have received the communication which I now forward from Dr. Hamilton, a member of the Executive Committee, and custos of the parish of St Andrew's, reporting upon Dr. Underhill's letter.

* Page 139. Dr. Hamilton's Remarks.

Dr. Hamilton's communication is generally corroborative of the opinions I have already expressed on this subject.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 26.

Dr. HAMILTON'S remarks on Dr. E. B. Underhill's letter to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies. Encl. in No. 26.

1st. Jamaica, possessing so great a range of climate, so peculiar a conformation of mountain and plain, and consequently such various aptitudes for the growth of its several products, it is a difficult matter for a person not intimately acquainted with every district of the Island to give a perfectly correct account of the condition of its inhabitants. The character and habits of the people vary in different districts, and poverty may exist in one locality, while in another, not far separate from it, plenty and even comparative affluence may prevail.

Very different accounts consequently of the condition of the people may be rendered by persons living in different places, yet all with equal truth.

Independently of these local differences, a cause of possible error exists in a peculiar characteristic of the peasantry, namely, great reticence as to their real position, and a remarkable tendency to shape their replies in conformity with the presumed opinions of the person interrogating them. I have also observed, that however the people may boast among themselves of their possessions, they have a decided objection to representing themselves as in a prosperous condition to persons of a superior social position, especially where such persons may have pecuniary or other claims against them. I may incidentally observe that this habit of depreciation is by no means restricted to the labouring classes. These considerations are of some importance in estimating the value of Dr Underhill's assertions.

2d. That "crime has fearfully increased" cannot be denied; the records of our prisons prove it, and this I believe is due to the development by recent occurrences of pre-existing causes. There can be no doubt that the traditions of the past times of slavery still exercise a pernicious influence among the peasantry, and not the least hurtful of them is the idea that it is no sin in the servant to appropriate to his own use things edible, grown by his master, or, in more general terms, they hold the idea that the produce of the earth is common property.

That larceny of this description has at all times prevailed is generally acknowledged, but on large estates and plantations it frequently passed unnoticed, or if observed it was in most cases impossible to get proof sufficient to secure conviction. As the larger properties went out of cultivation, and as the smaller plantations and the fields of settlers succeeded, then this crime began to be felt by the people themselves, and convictions became of more frequent occurrence, the small proprietors being in a position to take means for the identification of offenders which would have been impossible for the holders of large estates. From the peculiar habits of the people (also relics of former times), there has always existed a class of persons who, growing up without the restraint of any authority, parental or otherwise, were disposed to exist by crime in preference to labour, and this class has been on the increase, and will be so until marriage becomes amongst the people the rule, and not the exception.

The person who stole from the larger proprietor was not looked on as having committed any crime by his neighbours, nor when convicted was his imprisonment considered a disgrace. This, and the mistaken though well-intentioned system of management which till of late years prevailed in the Penitentiary and other prisons, rendered the sentence of the law (where conviction could be obtained) of little avail. The smaller landholders were already suffering from this state of things when the so called revivals took place, when large numbers of people left their provision grounds uncultivated, and for many months led a vagrant life. The demoralizing habits thereby induced produced a fearful increase in crime.

The drought of the last two years has no doubt "given intensity," not to "the suffering previously existing," as Dr. Underhill says, but to the deplorable state of things I have mentioned; besides which, numbers of well-conducted persons, finding their fields continually devastated, lost courage, and relinquished cultivation; such at least has been the report from every parish in the Island, and such I have myself heard from many of the peasantry with whom I am well acquainted.

3d. The "ragged and even naked condition" of the people, on which Dr. Underhill lays such stress, is no proof whatever of their poverty. The peasantry of this Island are fond of show and dress when they appear in public, such as at worship, at marriages, &c., &c., and as is shown both by their appearance on such occasions, and by the increasing number of and brisk trade in haberdashers' shops in the different towns in the Island. They, however, do not care for their appearance when in the field, and when at work wear the remnants of former finery reduced to rags. As a rule, they care little for clothing when at work, except in the mountain districts; where, in consequence of a lower temperature, clothing becomes necessary, and where the labourers, as far as I can learn, and as my

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experience goes, supply themselves with a sufficiency of working clothes. It is, however, probable that the increased cost of clothing may have so far affected the people as to oblige them to curtail the necessary, so as to be able to procure the superfluous.

Another peculiarity of the people must here be considered; it is their standard excuse, when they do not wish to go to any place or to do any particular thing, "that they have not got any clothes," or that "their clothes are not ready;" and it is possible that this stereotyped excuse may have in certain cases been accepted literally.

4th. With regard to taxation, I have read the reply of my colleague, Mr. Westmorland, who has more particularly to do with this question, and concur in his remarks. I may say the same of the remarks made both by Mr. Westmorland and Mr. Hosack as to the cultivation of sugar.

5th. With respect to the labour question, raised by Dr. Underhill, there are districts in the Island where large estates have being thrown out of cultivation, and where the demand for labour has much diminished, and in some of these districts where the demand has suddenly ceased the want of wages has been and is still severely felt; but in others, either after the lapse of time, or where cultivation has gradually ceased, the people have settled down on their own freeholds, and are as a rule well and comfortably situated. I shall have to consider the question of association further on; but I am convinced that were the peasantry capable of association, and were they to organize bands of labourers to go from one district to another, under the guidance of some one among them of sufficient intelligence to manage their affairs, there would be no cry of want labour on the part of the planter or of want of employment on that of the labourer.

In some instances I know personally that full rates of wages paid regularly every week will not, in certain localities, obtain labour from men whose wives and children are located on the plantations; these labourers preferring to work on the provision grounds they have purchased or rented.

In other cases the people will not give their labour when required, being engaged about their own business, but are very ready to raise the cry of want of work, when on their return to the property they find that the work which could not be allowed to lie over has been performed during their absence by other hands, often procured only at great trouble and expense.

There are no doubt properties where, from want of capital, payments are made only at uncertain intervals. On such labour is scarce, and in several instances no doubt this is felt by the people; but in a majority of cases the difficulty is to procure sufficient labourers even for ready money.

6th. Since emancipation a large number of the then existing coffee plantations have been thrown out of cultivation, and yet since 1840 the average exports of coffee have not diminished. Had Dr. Underhill or his correspondents travelled through the coffee districts they would have found that this was due to the number of small settlers who now grow coffee on their "little freeholds," and if the export returns of ginger, beeswax, honey, &c. are considered (all of which are the produce of the small freeholders) it will be apparent that these branches of industry are not in the deplorable condition Dr. Underhill would have us believe. I subjoin a table of exports of these minor articles from 1849 to 1864, both inclusive.

EXPORTS.

	Coffee.	Ginger.	Arrowroot.	Beeswax.	Honey.	Cocoanuts.	Pimento.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	gallons.		lbs.
In the year 1849 -	3,430,442	415,866	99,118	1,036	271	No return.	5,712,424
1850 -	5,127,255	799,276	226,186	5,243	2,365	6,400	4,059,825
1851 -	5,595,273	1,176,676	258,426	14,195	2,332	264,923	4,439,697
1852 -	7,127,680	994,878	169,009	27,423	2,258	458,662	5,488,803
1853 -	5,037,602	575,415	146,482	33,954	2,284	304,235	4,689,105
1854 -	5,990,672	710,086	97,451	64,688	7,423	415,391	5,102,728
1855 -	5,657,103	579,796	87,990	61,536	6,487	681,909	7,662,580
				cwt. qrs. lbs.			
1856 -	3,328,147	348,668	85,828	541 3 13	6,932	548,175	6,848,622
1857 -	7,095,623	381,157	88,903	1,001 2 10	13,054	741,772	8,719,748
1858 -	5,237,689	709,620	72,023	794 1 11	8,108	784,422	9,465,261
1859 -	5,399,925	589,890	47,068	770 2 21	6,954	712,913	4,809,847
1860 -	6,562,004	767,066	44,101	747 3 15	8,136	841,174	3,826,243
1861 -	6,766,954	709,742	32,088	694 1 0	8,858	999,276	8,863,249
1862 -	5,601,157	841,330	22,316	852 1 20	8,946	830,571	5,536,513
					cwt. qrs. lbs.		
1863 -	8,485,732	817,520	12,884	884 2 22	663 0 0	808,613	4,466,855
1864 -	5,424,184	747,152	37,204	878 1 24	661 3 4	738,766	8,929,870

Cocoanuts and pimento have been here introduced, though they are products common to large and small proprietors.

In St. George and some other parishes the cultivation of arrowroot has been superseded by that of coffee.

Dr. Underhill explains the "discouragement" to which he alludes in this part of his letter in his second suggestion. I defer my observations till referring thereto.

7th. I am not aware of any large exportation of silver from the Island having taken place, but I know that in some instances it has been exported by merchants when from circumstances they considered it more in their favour to make payment in specie than to procure the usual bills of exchange. I have also been informed that silver has been exported by the Colonial Bank, but have not been able to learn any particulars. The manager of that bank, however, informs me that he has addressed a minute to his Excellency the Governor on this question. I have reason to believe that a very large

amount of coin is secreted by the people, their great object being the purchase of land, and to this end they hoard whatever gold or silver they can obtain. I have recently heard of a peasant paying forty pounds in half crown pieces as part payment for some land he had purchased, and I have myself received seventy pounds in gold pieces of various denominations in payment for a parcel of land. In fact, the people have unfortunately no confidence in banks, in any association, or in each other, and when they acquire money they bury or otherwise hide it till the opportunity occurs of investing it in land.

8th. The questions glanced at in the paragraph of Dr. Underhill's letter immediately preceding his suggestions have reference to proceedings in the different bodies of the Legislature. They have there been fully discussed. To attempt to answer them here would be to reproduce the debates.

9th. With reference to Dr. Underhill's suggestions, the first is one on which the members of government in this Island need not give any opinion. With regard to the second, a total want of confidence in each other is a prevaling fault of the peasantry of Jamaica, and they have a still greater distrust of any person or society of persons who may endeavour to get them to form associations either for the disposal of their produce or any other cause in which money is concerned. Thus small coffee growers, though ready to acknowledge the advantage they would derive from combining their produce, and having it fitted for market in the manner employed upon the larger properties, will still each man dispose of his own particular portion with "all faults," for which he obtains a price no greater than what would be obtained for the lowest quality if properly prepared.

So in labour each man works for himself; no organization is as yet possible to take gangs to districts where labour is required. It is this distrust and opposition to all interference which throws the producer into the hands of agents, "by whose extortion and frauds the people now frequently suffer." Time, experience, and the spread of education alone can eradicate this feeling; but until such a change takes place among the people themselves no "association for shipping their produce" can succeed.

The people have plenty of "channels for direct transmission of produce," if they would deal even each individually with our large and respectable mercantile firms. They, however, will not do so; nor will any advice induce them to change their usual course of trade. In spite of alleged "extravagant charges," which do not exist, and "local taxation," which is light, the small settlers as they are termed are a thriving race. Their number is rapidly increasing; the cultivation of the minor products is augmenting; and if in some districts distress does exist it does not prevail as a general rule among the agricultural population. The late stringent laws concerning larceny have already produced good effect; and though all classes must suffer from the extraordinary drought with which the Island has been afflicted, with the return of genial seasons we may hope to find little permanent injury resulting from it. It is to be observed, however, that there are classes of society where much distress does exist. Amongst these are persons who have not been brought up to work, and who have a strong feeling that work of any kind is derogatory to them.

This is especially the case with the female portion of certain classes, who, even when they accept such work as in other countries would be considered suitable for them, do so as it were under protest, and too frequently perform it in a manner which precludes their chance of further employment.

Other persons live or have lived as dependants on relatives, who, under arrangements made when the old state of society prevailed, were in possession of annuities or other values which lapsed on their decease. On the death of such persons those depending on them have no resource but the precarious one of public or private charity.

From such causes (and there are many of these) it is incontestible that, especially in the towns, want and destitution prevail; but it is amongst classes who living on charity would consider themselves disgraced by accepting work of such a nature as they are qualified to perform.

This state of things is a relic of a former vicious state of society, and will disappear only with the lapse of time and the prevalence of a more healthy state of social relations.

Among the peasantry it cannot be denied that there is much pauperism. Old people deserted by their children, persons disabled by disease, and that class common to all countries who from a variety of causes are unable to support themselves, appear on our list; but here we have as additional causes the well-known improvidence of the people, the want of family ties, and the desire (where the latter do exist) on the part of persons who can find means to do so to evade the necessity of themselves supporting their relatives, by making them the recipients of public charity.

In fact the social causes incidental to the great change which social relations in Jamaica have been and are still undergoing have a much greater effect on the position of all classes than would appear on a superficial examination, and such causes must not be overlooked when considering the questions raised by Dr. Underhill. They lie deep at the root of our present position, and they require remedies of a more extensive description than Dr. Underhill proposes. Time will be a great element, education another, but certain classes and traditions must pass away before the measures which have been successful in other countries can be made available in Jamaica.

(Signed) ROBERT HAMILTON.

No. 27. No. 27.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 270.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 11, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 135,* of the 23d May, enclosing a report on Dr. Underhill's letter from Dr. Hamilton, one of your Executive Committee.

* Page 193.

JAMAICA.

You will be pleased to return to Dr. Hamilton my acknowledgments for his valuable and well-considered report.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

No. 28.

No. 28.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 136.) King's House, May 23, 1865.
Received, June 16, 1865.)

SIR,

Mr. Deleon to Mr. Austin, 26 April 1865. Resolutions.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a letter from Mr. John Deleon, forwarding certain resolutions passed at a public meeting at Savanna-la-Mar on the 21st ultimo, in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter.

Mr. Vickers to Mr. Austin, 15 May 1865.

I also enclose a copy of a report from the custos of the parish on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 28.

Enclosure 1 in No. 28.

Mr. JOHN DELEON to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Savanna-la-Mar, April 26, 1865.

As chairman of a meeting held in this town on Friday the 21st instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration certain statements contained in Dr. Underhill's letter to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, I beg leave respectfully to enclose herewith to his Excellency the Governor a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN DELEON.

H. W. Austin, Esq.
Government Secretary.

Encl. 2 in No. 28.

Enclosure 2 in No. 28.

AT a public meeting convened at the Bellfry Schoolroom (the Court-house being under repair) in the town of Savanna-la-Mar on Friday the 21st April instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration certain statements contained in a letter from Dr. Underhill, Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society in London, to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in relation to the distress prevailing amongst the labouring population of this Island, John Deleon, Esquire, having been called to the chair, the following resolutions were submitted and unanimously adopted:

No. 1. moved by Dr. Mennell, seconded by the Rev. John Vaz, Wesleyan minister, and supported by John Addison, Esquire—

That in the opinion of this meeting the peasantry dependent for a subsistence on the produce of their labour on the estates are severely suffering from the diminution of wages consequent on the low value of the staple products of the country, causing a depression which for many years past has never been so keenly felt, not only by the peasantry but by all classes in our community.

No. 2. Moved by David F. Thomas, esquire, and seconded by the Rev. W. Burke, Baptist Minister—

That from the abandonment of so many estates, and from the fact that there are in this country not sufficient means of remunerative employment, great numbers of persons have really no ostensible mode of providing for themselves and those dependant on them.

No. 3. Moved by the Rev. Thomas Geddes, Wesleyan Minister, and seconded by the Rev. Edward Hewitt, Baptist Minister—

Whilst this meeting freely declares that the Government are unable to control the depression arising inevitably from the low prices of the markets of the world, yet is fully impressed with the fact that there has been no attempt by legislative enactments to relieve the distress or ameliorate the condition of the suffering classes; and would earnestly request the Home Government to consider whether it would not be advisable to investigate the whole question in reference to this Island by any means they may deem impartial and effective.

No. 4. Moved by John Addison, Esquire, seconded by Joseph S. Segre, Esquire, and supported by Mr. John M'Kenzie—

That copies of these resolutions be signed by the Chairman of the meeting, and forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, to be transmitted to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that they be published in the "County Union," the "Jamaica Guardian," and the "Sentinel" newspapers.

By request of the meeting,
(Signed) JOHN DELEON, Chairman.

Enclosure 3 in No. 28.

JAMAICA.

Mr. VICKERS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Encl. 3 in No. 28.

SIR, Bellisle, Grange Hill, P.O., May 15, 1865.

No. 789. 10 May 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter, transmitting a copy of certain resolutions passed at a meeting held at Savanna-la-Mar, and requesting my report thereon.

I intended to have been present at the meeting held on the 21st April, but it came to my knowledge that improper means had been resorted to to procure the attendance of the labouring people, by informing them that the object of the meeting was to raise their wages. A few respectable people, I understand, present there of the labouring classes, who did attend, exhibited no outward signs of poverty, as I am informed, on reliable authority, that the people there were remarkably well dressed. The greater part of the labourers were disappointed at the nature and result of the meeting, and dissatisfied at having sacrificed a day's pay to be present. The rates of wages paid on the sugar estates have been reduced, but in consequence of increased cultivation the aggregate amount of expenditure in them is about the same as in past years, In corroboration of this I would refer you to the Colonial Bank for information as to the amount of money placed in circulation by their Savanna-la-Mar agency.

Only one sugar estate has been abandoned in this parish during the past five years, and another is now about to be thrown out of cultivation.

Considerable distress prevails amongst those incapable of field labour, but there is none amongst effective agricultural labourers. The latter class, however, loudly complain of the high prices they have to pay for all imported articles.

For further information on these heads I would refer his Excellency to my report on Dr. Underhill's letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin, Government Secretary.

(Signed) BENJAMIN VICKERS, Custos of Westmoreland.

No. 29.

No. 29.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

King's House, June 6, 1865.

(No. 137.)

(Received, June 29, 1865.)

(Answered No. 236, July 7 1865, page 205.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a communication (sent to me for the purpose from the Custos of St. James), forwarding certain resolutions adopted at a public meeting at Montego Bay in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. Enclosure 1.

The custos himself presided at the meeting, but desires to express his dissent generally from the resolutions.

The meeting appears to have been an amalgamation (for political purposes) between a portion of the country party, who are opposed to the present Executive Committee, and a portion of the Baptist ministers who desire to back up Dr. Underhill.

They first complain of the constitution of the Colony as unsuited to its present state and requirements, and call upon the British Parliament to abrogate it.

They secondly desire to annihilate the Established Church.

I append an account of the meeting, and of the speeches reported to have been made, from a Montego Bay paper, the editor of which, Mr. S. Levien, took a prominent part on the occasion. Enclosure 2. Extract from "County Union" of 23 May 1865,

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 29.

Encl. 1 in No. 29.

Mr. PHILLIPS to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Montego Bay, May 25, 1865.

IN accordance with one of the resolutions, I have the honour to forward to his Excellency the Governor, copy (in duplicate) of certain resolutions, and a memorial agreed to at a public meeting held at the Court-house in this town, on Friday the 19th instant, one copy to be transmitted to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

1. Not agreeing with the resolutions myself, I have attached an explanatory remark to my signature as chairman.

I have, &c.

The Hon. H. W. Austin, Government Secretary.

(Signed) GEORGE L. PHILLIPS, Custos, St. James.

JAMAICA.

To the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Memorial of the inhabitants of the parish of St. James, Jamaica, duly assembled at the Court-house, Montego Bay, to take into consideration the state of the Colony in reference to the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Colonial Secretary,

Humbly sheweth,

That at the meeting held certain resolutions were adopted relative to the condition of the Island, a copy of which is now respectfully forwarded.

Your memorialists are convinced that no inquiry conducted by persons resident in the Island as to the causes of the prostration of the Colony, or the remedies to be applied, would be satisfactory to the public here, as a suspicion of the influence of party bias would be sure to be entertained. Your memorialists therefore earnestly intreat that Her Majesty's Government will send out a commission to make a searching inquiry into the legislation of the Island since emancipation, its taxation, its economical and material condition, so that the causes of existing evils may be brought to light, and such remedies suggested and carried into effect as shall, by the blessing of God, secure prosperity to all classes of the community; that capital may flow into this fertile Island, so that its abundant resources may be fully developed; that there may be employment for the labourer, mechanic, and artisan, commerce for the merchant, and a satisfactory profit for the agriculturist.

Your memorialists would especially press the importance of sending out a commission, from the consideration that they feel powerless to work out a better state of things themselves, confidence in the legislation of the Island being entirely destroyed, for whilst estates have been abandoned one after the other, and capital more and more withdrawn, the Legislature has continued to increase both the Island debt and the annual taxation of the country. As your memorialists believe that Her Majesty's Government feels an interest in the prosperity of Jamaica, and is desirous that the Act of Emancipation should stand before the world at large, not merely as a benefit to those who were released from bondage, but also as a measure productive of prosperity to the agricultural, commercial, social, and political life of the Colony, they trust that the prayer of this memorial may receive a favourable consideration.

Signed on behalf of the meeting, at their request, and with the reservation mentioned in the copy of resolutions.

GEORGE L. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

Public Meeting, St. James, Montego Bay, Jamaica, May 19, 1865.

In accordance with a requisition to the Honourable George Lyon Phillips, Custos of Saint James, a public meeting, duly convened by advertisement, was held at the Court-house in the town of Montego Bay, on Friday the 19th of May 1865.

It was moved, and carried unanimously, That his honour the custos be requested to take the chair.

After the chairman (consenting to take the chair as custos, but holding himself aloof from all discussion or endorsation of resolutions that might be passed,) had opened the meeting, the following resolutions were moved, and unanimously carried.

By Mr. Wellesley Bourke, senior member for St. James.

Resolved—

1st. That distress pervades every section of this community, and the country is fast lapsing into ruin.

2d. The fiscal policy of the mother country in 1846, commenced the ruin which internal legislation and local rule have consummated.

3d. Seeing that the people of this country, who had no voice in the first, and but a nominal and illusory control over the second of these causes, have nevertheless been destroyed by their conjoint operation, they are driven in their extremity to appeal to the only power that can afford succour and extricate them from their difficulties.

4th. The means of relief from the first of these wrongs must be left to the wisdom and justice of the British Parliament. The unequal struggle of competition with slave labour can no longer be maintained.

5th. The second cause of our evils is also beyond our means of cure. The Legislature is usuited to the country; its framework is too cumbrous and expensive; its corruption and extravagance have aggravated the evils, and accelerated the ruin initiated by the Sugar Duties Bill of 1846 ; and the people are yet powerless for reform. The laws of the franchise have heretofore practically stifled their voice, while the representative system established in the year 1681 (upon the basis of society then existing) has given so preponderating an influence in numbers and in facility of attendance to the now insignificant parishes around the seat of Government (whose vitality depends entirely on the system which diverts the public means from their legitimate application) as practically to overwhelm and neutralize the votes from the agricultural and commercial districts, whence the bulk of the revenue is drawn.

6th. That constituted as is the House of Assembly of Jamaica, with its unequal distribution of seats, affording a preponderance of votes to those parishes interested in upholding the present unwholesome and ruinous system of affairs, any reform of that body is impracticable.

7th. That the institution of two legislative chambers, however a former state of prosperity may have justified it, is now unsuited, cumbrous, and useless. Had the Legislative Council exercised its undoubted right of repressing the waste of the public finances by the House of Assembly, in the rejection of any Appropriation Bill with one single profligate item of expenditure, they would have subserved the purpose of their institution, but when they base their abstinence from action on the practice of the House of Lords with respect to

Money Bills coming from the Commons, they lose sight of the vast distinction between the two Legislatures, and exhibit themselves as practically useless and impotent for good. The Commons of Great Britain are the embodiment and the representation of the people of Great Britain, while the members of Assembly, by the defects of the franchise, and by reason of the inequality of the representation, do not speak the voice of the people of Jamaica.

8th. That the Executive Committee, which a recent pretended reform of the constitution had intended to interpose as a check upon the profligacy of the Assembly, has failed to fulfil its high mission. A corrupt majority can only be conciliated by the sacrifice of duty and honour; and that price is not scrupled to be paid by those who are more jealous of pension than of the welfare of the people.

9th. That in the view of these facts the people of this country are powerless to accomplish the objects desired, and therefore pray the intervention of the only power which can yet save a loyal people from impending annihilation.

Moved by Mr. Sidney Levien—

10th. That this meeting, met in review of the assertions made by Dr. Underhill, deliberately and unhesitatingly endorses their substantial truth.

Moved by Rev. Walter Dendy—

11th. That a memorial be presented to Her Majesty's Government, requesting that a commission be sent to this Island, to make a searching inquiry into the legislatian of the Island since emancipation, its taxation, and its economical and material condition.

Moved by Mr. George Lyons—

12th. That a committee be appointed to draw up a memorial in accordance with the resolutions adopted at this meeting, and that the same be signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting.

The following gentlemen were appointed the committee, Rev. Walter Dendy, Wellesley Bourke, Esq., George Lyons, Esq., Rev. John E. Henderson, Rev. James Reid, and Sidney Levien, Esq.

Moved by the Rev. Edward Hewett—

13th. That the resolutions passed at this meeting be signed by his honour the custos, and, with the memorials to be drawn up, they be transmitted through his Excellency the Governor to the Colonial Secretary, and that the resolutions be published in the newspapers of Montego Bay, and in the "Colonial Standard" of Kingston.

Moved by the Rev. J. E. Henderson—

14th. That a vote of thanks be tendered to Wellesley Bourke, Esq., senior member of Assembly for St. James, for his kindness in attending this meeting, and for the valuable information which he has given us.

Signed on behalf of the meeting, at their request, and with the reservation mentioned above.

(Signed) GEORGE L. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

(Signed) PHILPOTTS BROWN,
Honorary Secretary.

Mr. PHILLIPS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Montego Bay, June 1, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of 29th May.

Beyond expressing my dissent generally from the resolutions signed by me officially as chairman and forwarded on the 29th May, I have no particular remarks to make on them to his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE L. PHILLIPS.

Enclosure 2 in No. 29.

Encl. 2 in No. 29.

EXTRACTS from the "County Union and Anglo-Jamaican Advertiser," dated May 23, 1865.

THE SITUATION.

We begged the Kingston press to believe that it had been utterly mistaken in the view it had taken of Dr. Underhill's letter. We assured it that, when they came to be tested by ventilation in an agricultural district, the truths that gentleman had placed before Mr. Cardwell would be found endorsed by public opinion, in thorough contradiction to southside editorialism. We felt assured that it could not be otherwise, if the voice of a Jamaica public was entrusted to give its honest opinion in free and unfettered discussion. What we predicted has come to pass. Whether we take the stormy indications given at Lucea for Hanover, or the calm and dignified demonstration of Montego Bay for St. James, we find that Dr. Underhill did write the truth,—that his assertions were not mere sectarian or Baptist exaggerations. Did he write that the "unwisdom that has governed Jamaica since emancipation should be brought to an end," let those who insist upon its falsity read the resolutions passed on Friday last, and imagine they hear the loud acclamations with which they were received, then blush at their own mistake. Did he assert that "with just laws and light taxation, capitalists would be "encouraged to settle in Jamaica, and employ themselves in the production of the more important "staples," this truth is embodied in the memorial to-morrow wending its way to the Colonial Secretary. He has been told his letter is "all a lie." Is it? St. James and Hanover both say with him

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that "the course taken by the Jamaica Legislature, abortive Immigration Bills, unjust taxation," together with "the distrust awakened in the mind of capitalists," all these combined have helped to place the Colony in her present distressed condition. Does he descend to particulars? To the most close alliance with his assertions the people of the north side,—of Hanover and St. James,—have bound themselves. We take it no greater moral triumph could be accorded to the philanthropy and foresight he has exhibited to this Colony, than in the gratifying results we this day publish.

The meeting of St. James was most substantial and satisfactory in its character. Its chairman, the custos of the parish, member of the Legislature and Privy Council, could hardly be expected to assent to the stern truths he, ex officio, condemned himself to listen to. So far, however, as considering that the state of Jamaica called for inquiry from the British Government he ventured to go with the meeting. Beyond that his presence vouches nothing but a courteous bending to the claims the parish had upon his personality. But when we find every class represented,—the planting, mercantile, legal, clerical, middle, and lowest classes,—when we scan the material of which the meeting was composed,—we admit of no higher tribunal extant as representing popular opinion in Jamaica. At this meeting each speaker spoke distinctly, each person who listened, each acclamation given, gave in no blind adherence to ad captandum doctrine nor demagogueism. All were in earnest who spoke; all were in earnest who took part. The letter of Mr. Simon Thomson of Trelawny (speaking also for as high and influential a planter as himself, Mr. Sewell,) is but a counterpart of Dr. Underhill's letter expressed in agricultural ideas. With this, and the resolutions passed, together with what was elicited viva voce, Dr. Underhill may approach Mr. Cardwell in all exultation for his mission of good towards Jamaica. Want of space alone precludes further remarks. Our contemporaries may possibly now understand that, if of the press we stand alone in defence of Dr. Underhill's bona fides, we at least are backed by that public opinion which only can be of any value in solving a great social question, such as their metropolitan editorialism erroneously presumed to be equal to.

Great Meeting in St. James.

On Friday last, pursuant to public advertisement, the above meeting came off in the court-house of Montego Bay. So vast an assemblage, so mixed and weighty a gathering, so solid a demonstration, never in our memory has been got together in this town. The court-house was packed to an unpleasant repletion, and gentlemen of note, who evidently desired to testify by their presence the interest they felt in the question, were unable to obtain seats or standing room upon the platform. Several went away in consequence, the heat in the body of the building being insufferable. Planters of position, country gentlemen, ministers of religion (none of the Established Church), merchants, shopkeepers, labourers, crowded the large hall, and as a demonstration met to endorse the truth of Dr. Underhill's assertion relative to the distressed condition of the Colony, the impression created, that must be created elsewhere, was unmistakeable.

His honour the custos of the parish entered a little beyond the hour appointed, and was conducted to the platform by the gentry present. Immediately around him on the platform were Wellesley Bourke, Esq., senior member of the parish; Messrs. S. Barrett, W. Kerr, W. Dewar, E. R. Chambers, J. Daly, G. Lyons, R. and W. Fowler, P. Brown, and S. Levien; together with the Revds. Messrs. Mearns, Hewitt, J. E. and G. Henderson, Dendy, and others; while in the room we noticed Messrs. R. W. Buchanan, J. W. Parkin, Dr. Kelly, J. aud W. Whittingham, W. Barnett, Jacob and John Jackson, Mitchelin, Tomlinson, W. O. Dunbar, Taylor, S. G. Corinaldi, &c., together with a dense mass composed of the shopkeepers, middle class, and labourers, a meeting of such mixed element as only the great pressure of the times, with the interest felt in the great social question to be discussed, could by possibility have got together.

His honour the custos opened the meeting by reading the requisition addressed to him, and his reply thereto. He said, That under the requisition they were met, he was surprised at seeing so large a number of persons. He did not think it would have been necessary for him to be present, and, indeed, from the respectable attendance they could go on without him. That the persons present were far different from what he expected, being of all classes, gentlemen of wealth, intelligence, and influence, as well as of the labouring classes. He would request all in attendance to be peaceable and orderly. It could not be expected all present were of one mind; he knew they would differ in opinion, but that even so it could pass off with harmony and good feeling. He begged they would call some one to the chair, as it was in their province to do so.

Rev. Mr. Henderson proposed that the custos take the chair, which was seconded by Rev. Mr. Hewitt, and the whole meeting held up hands in assent.

The Chairman.—Gentlemen, being called to the chair, I feel I should do wrong in not responding. You know the object of the meeting as I have read the requisition. I expect resolutions will be moved to-day, but I do not intend to be a party to any. I wish to be understood as not giving any opinion, for the resolutions about to be moved may not be of my opinion, and therefore, acting impartially, I shall be of neither one side or the other. One thing I would suggest as to answer a good purpose, that is, that it be proposed an appeal be made to the British Government, stating the distressed condition of the country, and asking for a special commission to inquire into the state of the Island. An appeal is about to be made to the British Government on the distress of the country, but I do not think able-bodied men should cry out for ruin and distress when they can work; they should use means to keep off distress. I know there is great distress in the country, but the people who can work are not those to cry out. They will be told to help themselves. I would assist the old and infirm, but not the strong and hearty men. What capitalist from England or elsewhere would assist a people who cry out general ruin. This I am aware has been a very trying year. I know it of my own experience, as well as any other person. There is one thing in Mr. Underhill's letter, where he says "Inquiry should be made." That is, truly, what should be done. If the British Government could be induced to send gentlemen who are not influenced to inquire, and if they came and saw the state of the Island, and that we required help, that help I am sure would be afforded. Our own cries of distress won't carry out

your intention. There certainly should be a commission of inquiry to get at the distressed state of the country. I am quite sure you will, after all I have said, pay attention to the resolutions and to the gentlemen who intend to move them. The meeting is now fully opened, and we are ready to hear any gentleman desirous of speaking. As I before said, I take no part in the meeting beyond presiding in that chair to which your voices have called me.

Mr. W. Bourke (senior member of the parish).—As I have been requested by the gentlemen present to take the initiative, I will do so. I feel sorry that the opinion of the chairman differs from mine, though only nominally. Distress is rampant throughout the country, affecting not only the lower orders but all classes. If the remedy were in our hands to check the distress it would be our duty to do so; and if we did not we should be like the waggoner who cried out for help without trying to help himself, and very properly be told,—"Aide toi et le ciel t'aidera." Mr. Chairman, you say why don't we help ourselves? We are not able to help ourselves, being perfectly powerless. If we had the power it would be unreasonable to appeal to the Government of Great Britain for succour. I will not now open the topic of the abolition of slavery. There is no doubt Great Britain effected a great deliverance in the emancipation of slavery in this country. All I shall say on this branch of the subject is, that there might have been a more wholesome system adopted to carry it out, and if care had been taken with the population, vastly different would be their present condition. Great Britain was grossly inconsistent with us. She had promised us protection, but when pressure was brought to bear she threw us off. She ought never, seeing the position in which she had placed us, to have submitted us to the pressure of the sugar duty. I appeal to England's sense of propriety, and she must see a fearful future. If we ask her for succour, she will use the words your honour used to the Assembly, "Help yourselves." We anticipate the answer, and will tell them, we are powerless in consequene of our mal-legislation. "What! you poor?" England will say, "Look at your Appro-" priation Bill." "It makes my very blood curdle to look at the many pounds wrung out of your " hands. Why appeal to us when the appropriation law each year betokens by its increase increased " prosperity?" In what we do this day let us deal with the question on its broad basis generally. I implore this meeting not to be sectional or sectarian, but to grapple with the disease, and not deal with the symptoms. Let us state the plain facts of the powerless condition of the people of the Colony, and show what has induced that condition. Our ruin began first with the fiscal policy of Great Britain. You are not now in the same condition as you were. When I remember what all you people were 20 years ago when I came here, I shudder at what you now are. Great Britain ought to endeavour to apply some remedy. I again say, we are driven to appeal to her, for we have no hope from our own Government. What does this Government care for you so long as it has the play of the taxes wrung from you? I will read my first resolution. [Reads.] When I first came here to reside, I found every one decently clad and properly fed, but now they are not; they know and feel distress, for it is visible throughout the land. ("It is." Yes, it is, it is." Yes, yes." Loud sensation.) My second resolution—[The speaker here read his various resolutions, which will be found elsewhere, commenting on them as he went on. Speaking to the 5th resolution relative to mal-legislation] He said: I admit that my bile rises and boils in me when I see the rights of the people perverted by those who ought to protect them. My honourable friend, the chairman, comes in for a little castigation in my 7th resolution. It will do him good. He is one of the Council. I advised them to economize, but they would not, all their ambition was to appear like kings and lords, and when I speak of the Executive Committee I speak of it as the greatest curse to poor Jamaica. (A voice, "That depends if your friends are in or out.") I don't care about friends. I don't care who is in or out. All that I know is, that no honest man can exist in the Executive Committee so long as such an Assembly as we have exists; and the 8th resolution embodies the opinion which I entertain of that body, an opinion which your observation will not fail to endorse.

When the new Constitution Bill was passed, legislative corruption was thought to have reached its acme. The House, with its speaker, was commonly likened to "Ali Baba and his Forty Thieves." Seeing there were forty-seven members, the comparison was found to exclude six from the category, a miserable modicum to contend against the forty thieves. The New Constitution Bill sought to cure this. Instead of leaving the public purse at the mercy of those forty thieves, it was sought to establish a system of watchmen, and accordingly power was given to appoint four of this body to act as our Executive Committee to keep watch over the public chest. I know not whether the same principle of selection guided the Governor as generally regulates the managers of estates in choosing the greatest thieves and rascals on the property to watch the canes, on the wise adage of "setting a thief to catch a thief;" but the result has shown that instead of the depredations in the public chest having ceased they have been multiplied indefinitely; the watchmen and pilferers are in close accord, and a system of spoliation of the people has been inaugurated by the present system of government, which shows that we have gained nothing by the change. [The learned gentleman then reviewed and illustrated the gross corruption of the Assembly, and expressed a deep feeling of pity for the Governor, emphatically declaring that "surrounded as he was by evil influences and by corrupt men, an angel from Heaven placed as Governor of Jamaica must be powerless for good."] He then declaimed against the unequal representation of Cornwall, with its large population, its vast importance as an agricultural county, its heavy payment of taxes, as pitted against Surrey and Middlesex, the first represented by ten members, the two others by eighteen and nineteen, each one of them barely paying one-fifth of the entire taxation. He felt that he and country members who at the sacrifice of time went yearly to Spanish Town were powerless for good against membership that lived adjacent to the seat of Government, was ready at all calls, was banded together for one purpose,—the perpetuation of taxes, and an upholding of the corruption that involved the people, the planters, and the whole Island in one general poverty. With these sentiments, which those present had apparently endorsed, he placed his resolutions (1 to 9) before the meeting for approval. Before, however, he concluded, he begged to read to the meeting a letter he had received from Mr. Simon Thomson of Trelawny, speaking the sentiments of himself and Mr. Sewell. Now these were both men of property (A voice "Are they natives?") They are not; both had come here to achieve their way in the world, and had worked themselves up to the very top of the ladder, and were now men of large property and standing. They had ever kept

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aloof from politics; and when gentlemen such as they testified to the condition of the Colony, no stronger or weightier evidence could be desired or prove more reliable. He then read the subjoined:—

"Wellesly Bourke, Esq.

"Dear Sir, Georgia, Duncans P. O., 15th May 1865.

"Your circulars of the 12th instant to Mr. Sewell and myself are to hand, and although we may be prevented from attending the meeting on the 19th instant, and giving it that personal support which a meeting convened ostensibly, we hope, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present depressed state of the Island, and proposing some remedial measures, so well deserves, we would willingly give our aid in petitioning the British Government to introduce into this Island some other and more economical form of government more suited to its present position.

"We quite agree with you on the necessity of holding public meetings. Let our voices be heard and our opinions ventilated.

"The evils we have most to fear, in our opinion, are the House of Assembly and the present Executive Committee, in whom we may safely say nine tenths of the community, ourselves among the number, have no confidence.

"Our legislators go on year after year, creating new offices, and increasing taxation to meet the salaries which they attach to them, while the Island is next to ruined from a variety of causes, among which may be named the late severe and protracted drought, the low and unremunerative prices of our staples, and enormous taxation. It does not seem to enter into the heads of our representatives to economize and to reduce the extravagant expenditure of the Island commensurate with its declining agriculture and commerce.

"The Road Bill is a monstrous evil, involving a reckless waste of expenditure, without anything approaching to a corresponding benefit. I would venture to assert that we get more, and better work, done on the parochial roads, for one-fifth of the amount allowed for the repairs to main roads. This Bill should be either altogether abolished or very materially modified.

"The Slip Dock Bill is another item of expenditure which the country should have been saved. A work of this kind should be for private speculation to embark in, and not tax a whole community for a work of very questionable utility to the general public.

"I have thus scribbled together a few of my sentiments; take them for what they are worth. I seldom, or never, enter the arena of politics, and therefore, as you will see, I am no dab at them.

"I hope you will have a large meeting, and that the views of the different speakers will be unanimous for good.

"I may mention that Mr. Sewell fully concurs in all I have written.

"I am yours faithfully,

"S. THOMSON."

Mr. Bourke then, handing in his series of resolutions, sat down amidst immense cheering.

Rev. Mr. Hewett.—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I do not appear before you in the capacity of a Baptist. To a great many it would not be acceptable, but to many it would. I appear as Edward Hewitt, a British subject and citizen of Jamaica. I co-operate with the chairman as to the good order he wishes observed throughout the meeting, and I think you will. We meet here this day as one. I speak in behalf of all, and believe all will admit that we are one. The individual who would infuse in you another opinion is a rogue, and would act against the interest of Jamaica. "If you "live I live, if you die I die also." It is this, his honour the custos, the planters, the whites, browns, blacks, and all, sail in the same boat; if you make a hole in the bottom we must all go down. I don't think there is one in this room who will say he is not poor. (Turning to the custos.) I don't know if your honour is, but I speak for all present, and for myself, and for you; for Dr. Underhill says in his letter to the Secretary of State, we are poor. If we were to sit down and think of the cause we may differ; but from Morant Bay to Negril Point, and throughout the Island, we are poor. Some are poor, being lazy; some are poor, being wicked; but a great many are poor for want of labour; some are poor in consequence of low wages. How can the country be rich when we have got forty thieves in the House of Assembly? Our member here (Mr. Bourke) is not one of them; there is not a more indefatigable and honest member in the Assembly. If the others were like him he would not have occasion to speak of forty theives. If he who knows their motives says so, they must be almost without hope. It is not only imaginary that we are poor, but ask the merchants of Montego Bay to tell you whether they sell as much as they did. You have not the money to purchase now as you had years past, and the goods now are dearer than they ever were before. Those who attend the different churches on Sabbath days must observe the change in the people's dress. I can speak of my congregation; they don't dress now as they used to. Parents of children are now not able to send them to school as they used once to do. Why, because they are too poor to supply them with the necessary clothes. I would like to see the rich man of the country. If there be one here let him hold up his hand (a pause and dead silence). We are too heavily taxed; there is not a piece of pork you eat that you don't pay a tax for. Not a piece of bread you eat that there is not a tax paid on; nor is there a rag you wear that there is not a tax on. I firmly believe that the forty thieves would tax the water that you drink and the air you breathe if it were possible; and why don't they? It is because they can't get hold of either. If they could lay hold to the drops of rain as they fall from Heaven they would tax them, or could they grasp the air as we breathe it they would tax it also. There are not better taxpayers than the people of Jamaica, taxed till they are crushed down. Poor country! exporting only 30,000 hogsheads of sugar and 20,000 puncheons of rum, to be taxed so heavily. We want to know why we are called upon to pay 50,000*l.* to support the Established Church. I would like to see those who talk of sectarians pay their church. Why do they ask you and me to pay for the building of their churches, for their wine, their organ, and surplices? I won't say a word of their doctrine. We are taxed enormously for immigration purposes. All of you have to pay it (Mr. W. Kerr, "No, no, no; I deny it, I say no; the planters pay that" (sensation), and amidst the confusion Mr. Kerr left the platform). Mr. Hewitt continued—I say yes, you will have

to pay the debt incurred by immigration. I am sorry anything I should say should disturb the meeting, but I again say it is we who have to pay the debt. 18,500 immigrants have been brought to Jamaica, and what good has it done for the country. It is you the labourers who ought to work, and then you will prosper. You must work harder, and you will get on, through the aid of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I will read the resolutions, I had prepared, but I think they can well be dispensed with for those of Mr. Bourke's. (Reads his resolutions and places them before the chairman.)

The Chairman said, he had two sets of resolutions before him, but he would hold them back if any other gentleman desired to speak.

Rev. J. Reid said, he would not give expression to anything that would mar the proceedings. He was glad to see one of our members for the parish present. The Assembly did not study the interests of the people, but squandered away their money. In Dr. Underhill's communication he states that there was not sufficient means in this country to support its population. There was not. In a short time there would not be sufficient food for people to eat, nor money to buy it with if there was. He was not sectarian. He wished the welfare of the planters, the merchants, and the peasantry. He told Sir Lionel Smith, in the parish of Vere, that he would like to see every estate like a garden. Let us hope the custos and the member present would be able to do good for the country. He longed to see the country prosper. Let the House of Assembly confess their faults, and do good for the people. If they would not, the sooner they were done away with the better. We should be all the better if they legislated for us in England (hear).

Rev. J. E. Henderson.—The object of the meeting is to take into consideration Dr. Underhill's letter. I am gratified at the speech of the senior member of the parish. I go for the doing away with the House of Assembly. I look on it as a curse to the Island; I don't believe we should be in this position if they had dealt fairly with us. If a representative assembly would deal fair with the people, I would say keep it up. They impose a tax of 10*s.* on the small freeholders, and shut their mouths. I have just been reminded that it was a friend of the people who robbed them. I never expected to have lived long enough to see Mr. Jordon rob the people in this country of their rights. I don't believe it was only he, but through the forty thieves. I don't believe if we had 100,000 voters we would have a better Assembly. I am glad of Mr. Bourke's address, and we ought to feel proud of him, when we see that he has kept clear of the forty thieves. I hold in my hand an English newspaper, with Mr. Bourke's speech in the House of Assembly, which has relation to Dr. Underhill's letter. (Reads the paper.) There are some people in the country so lazy and determined to steal that nothing will do them good but a thorough flogging. Has Mr. Underhill said more than that? Why should the Kingston press attack him and me, and not Mr. Bourke? Why fly all its venom against the poor Baptist missionaries, and leave the honourable member alone? They know that if they touch Mr. Bourke they will get what they won't like. When I say the Kingston press, I mean the "Jamaica Guardian," which says that the Jamaica peasantry are better off than ever they were. Is it true ("No, no!"). I hear the people say the merchants cheat, and sell them bad cloth ("Yes, yes!"). Not so; there is too much competition in the town of Montego Bay for that. I have heard people say the planters cheat. I am of opinion they have cause; but again, I think they (the planters) pay as much as they can in consequeuce of the decline in the price of sugar and rum. To say the people are not poor would be an absurdity. Every one knows that we are getting poorer and poorer every day. Any man who would help us out in our difficulty ought to be praised and thanked. If Dr. Underhill was not a Baptist he would not be so treated. In 1844 the debt due by the country was 454,000*l.*, if I am not mistaken. In 1865 it will be about 900,000*l.* How is this enormous debt to be paid, with estates going down every day? The Europeans will soon be leaving the country; and it is time for you, the people, to know how it is to be paid. Who is to pay it when the Europeans have left, and there are no planters? You will be left in the country, and you, the people, will have to pay it all. If your money was used for proper purposes, and for the benefit of the people, it would not be regretted. Part of this large debt was borrowed to bring immigrants. Have they done any good? (Voices—"No, no.") Do they pay taxes? (Voices—"No, no, no.") The natives, who are the labouring population, are driven away from the estates, and coolies taken in their stead. The debt was contracted before the Export Duty Bill was passed. It is said by every one that the salaries of the judges and other officials should be reduced. Why should it not be also said that we can't afford to pay 45,000*l.* a year for the keeping up of the Established Church? I say we cannot, and will not continue to pay it? To my sorrow a Baptist church applied to the House of Assembly for a grant. I would rather see my church extinct than see it so degrade itself in this way. A great reduction in taxation may be made, and must be made. Look at 30,000*l.* for a slip dock in Kingston, to benefit certain gentlemen there, they being the instruments of getting the grant to do it. If we were to get 30,000*l.* in St. James we would not be so badly off. Through the circulars issued by Mr. Bourke, our senior member, might in some measure be attributed the large and influential meeting of to-day. It may be said, in fact it has been said, that people like you ought to be ashamed to say that you are poor; but if the estates can't give you more than 3*s.* or 4*s.* per week (Voices—"4*s.*! No; some 2*s.* 6*d.*; some only 1*s.* 6*d.*") how can you live? Very likely the very lazy persons only get 1*s.* 6*d.*, and those who are industrious 4*s.* Whether 4*s.*, 3*s.*, or 2*s.*, the question is, whether it would be enough for strong men to live on? The country cannot be prosperous when strong men like you cannot make more than 4*s.* per week.

Mr. Levien,—Mr. Custos and gentlemen. For me to add one word further than endorsing what has fallen from other speakers as to the corruption of the Colony would be impertinent. Much better than by any words I could use has it been testified to by Mr. Bourke and others. But I think the main purpose for which this meeting has been called this day, for which so large an assemblage of all classes has been gathered together, is slightly overlooked in the political discussion that has been evoked. I take it we met here this day (reads from the requisition) "to take into consideration the "state of the Colony in reference to the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Secretary of State for the "Colonies." I drew up the requisition, and therefore feel deep interest in keeping the meeting to this one point, which those who have gone before me have, in their views, given a wide diversion to.

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To Dr. U's letter (takes up a copy) then I shall confine myself, and for the truth of this letter I shall speak. Dr. Underhill writes—"crime has fearfully increased." Has it not? ("It has, it has.") Who can doubt it? Says Dr. Underhill, "The number of prisoners in the penitentiary and gaols is "considerably more than double the average, and nearly all for one crime." Will any one deny this fact; a fact patent to all who hear me; patent to the authorities of the parish now here; patent to every one who knows the condition of the country? (reads) "Nearly all for one crime, larceny." Yes, but it is larceny of the most petty kind, larceny that steals a penny halfpenny worth of canes or a couple of cocoanuts to keep life in where work cannot be found, or employment given even if the people were inclined to labour. When there were five hundred estates hard at work, the larceny of canes was never heard of. You, the people, were encouraged to eat canes, for the planters did not miss them, and it made those who eat them all the stronger. It may be that, as in slavery, you were brought up on canes, so the idiosyncrasy of your nature impels you to continue eating them. It may be that the mass is driven to it because of the hardness of the time; because as you walk in the highways you find these canes and nuts, food and drink that requires no preparation, no cooking. But there is another stealing that is the curse of the country; the stealing of provisions; a robbery, worse, if that be really possible, than any other, for it is the poor stealing from the poor. For this class there should be no sympathy; they should be punished by the strong hand of the law. Nevertheless Dr. Underhill is right, and he speaks truth; crime is on the increase, and that from the poverty, from the falling off of the employment for the people ("Yes, yes.") Again (reads), "Summonses for petty debts "disclose an amount of pecuniary difficulty which has never before been experienced, and applications "for private and parochial relief prove that multitudes are suffering from want, little removed from "starvation." Need I ask this meeting if this statement is untrue; untrue in any particular? I say it is true, and defies contradiction. Never as there been such universal distress as now overshadows the Colony; never has there been such fearful difficulty as all classes are undergoing. With these facts before us, I say that Dr. Underhill's letter is a true picture of the state of Jamaica, and that this Colony owes him a debt of gratitude which this meeting can best show by going with me in the resolution I am about to read. I put it because of the great contradiction he has met with from those who ought to have known better; I put it for the express purpose of testing whether or not he has written falsehood. It is this:—"That this meeting, met in review of the assertions made by Dr. "Underhill, deliberately and unhesitatingly endorses their substantial truth." Is this so? Am I correct? Does this meeting believe that Dr. Underhill has stated the truth or not. (Great sensation, 'Yes, yes." "The truth, the truth.") The resolution was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Samuel Holt (a black man, and local preacher of St. Elizabeth).—I feel pleasure to be allowed an opportunity of addressing the meeting, though I fear I might be indicted and brought to the bar of grammar for killing the Queen's English. We all feel the hardship of the time, but did not know the cause of it. Sometimes we go to bed, and in the night we hear a rumbling, but we turn ourselves, and don't know what the rumbling is. In the morning one man meet another, and he ask, did you feel the earthquake last night? Then we know what was the rumbling. Just so. We all felt the hardship of the times, but did not know what was the cause; we did not know what the rumbling was till every one ask, have you read Dr. Underhill's letter? Then we know what all the disturbance was, and the rumbling that bring us here to-day. We are poor. Have we got the same property, the same quantity of clothing and money as we had in times past? A reduction in taxation must take place. We shall have it made. We won't submit to be crushed down any longer. My friends, read the Acts of Apostles. When the ship was in danger of being wrecked, did the vessel keep the heavy load in her till she went down to the bottom? No; they threw over some of the heavy load, and though the ship was lost those men who took wise counsel got safe to land. On the same principle why should we wait till all is lost? Why not throw overboard the weight of taxation, and save those who could be saved? Why should we wait till all are entirely crushed, and do nothing before we cry out lost, lost? It is well for the legislators to get all the loaves and fishes, for they don't care where the taxes come from, but when they have all we have got can they take the fishes in the sea? ("Hear, hear.") Were the Irish and the Lancashire poor allowed to want till they were naked? No; the Government did not allow them to get naked, nor even did the rich people. They did not abuse them, and call them lazy, but they helped them till work came for them, for they saw if there was no cotton there could be no work, and the same is here for a very great many of us. I, who have worked half my life as a slave, make now 50 barrels of sugar on my own property, and you, perhaps, who have had the whole of your time, don't do it. It is not that you cannot. You can, but you won't. The small settlers are the keeping up of the merchants, for if they don't come to market on Saturday the merchants get frightened. You, sir, (to the Chairman,) I know are rich, but, by jingo, if quashie don't bring in the yams to market, and buy on the Saturday in the shops, the merchants find it a very black Monday in making up their remittances to go by post on Tuesday.—(Loud laughter.) And yams put me in mind that we black people are always told to go and plant yams. Why don't the planters go and plant yams? Because it can't pay them; because they like sugar better. We are told, the blacks are told, to dig yams. All right. But if the poor white and brown men would go to work as well as the blacks there would not be so much distress. If the poor whites would pull off their coats as I am obliged to do; I worked half of my life as a slave, for another man, never tasting my own sweat and labour. When I want a dinner I take up my hoe, and I go and dig it. If the white and coloured gentlemen would set an example by going to the wharves to work, the poor blackies would follow—("Hear, hear.") But instead of that these fine people have their gentility, and go and breakfast with this friend and dine with another, and walk about with a good suit of clothes rather than work. It is not my colour alone that is idle. All such men as these tend to the ruin of the country.—(Loud and continued cheering.)

His honour the custos then submitted the resolutions to the meeting for its approval, Mr. P. Brown (hon secretary) proceeding to read them; but being interrupted by the meeting, which said it did not understand them, the custos read them seriatim, and explained each as he went on.—Subsequently they were all agreed to.

Rev. W. Dendy.—I think there is one resolution omitted in those already moved, which is, the

proposition of his honour the custos in his opening address relative to a commission from the Home Government. We want to have disinterested persons to make a report, and not persons of the country who are interested. He believed that the House of Assembly lost its right hand and the Island at large its best friend, when they lost a gentleman like you, sir (the Chairman). I say a gentleman like you, one of business, and who understands the management of financial affairs, is a very great loss to the people's representation. The people of the Island are very heavily taxed. Why do they come to market with small baskets on heads? If there was not such a heavy tax on carts they would be more used, which would be a great saving of labour and time, and be the means of giving employment to carpenters and smiths in building them. What do we know of the laws that are made, and the grants by such laws, in the Assembly, until they call on us by taxation to pay them? There is a greater expenditure than should be on the main roads. It would appear that Kingston and Spanish Town form the whole of Jamaica, St. James, Hanover, Westmoreland, and the other parishes are left out and sacrificed to those adjacent to the seat of Government. I propose, sir, this, (the 11th resolution).

Mr. George Lyons requested his honour the custos to name a committee to prepare the memorial to the British Government. This was done. Committee: Rev. Dendy, Messrs. W. Bourke, G. Lyons, Revds. J. E. Henderson, J. Reid, and Mr. S. Levien.

Sundry routine thanks were proposed, and the meeting closed.

No. 30. No. 30.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre.

(No. 236.)

Sir, Downing Street, July 7, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 137,* of the 6th of June, transmitting to me resolutions adopted at a public meeting at Montego Bay in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. * Page 197.

If, as suggested in one of these resolutions, a commission were to be sent out to inquire into the state of Jamaica, the commissioners could scarcely collect more information than has been already collected by yourself, with the assistance of the bishop and his clergy, the ministers of other persuasions, the custodes of the parishes, the magistrates and other persons of authority and intelligence, nor could they be expected to report upon the information collected with more judgment and impartiality than are evinced in the reports with which you have accompanied the voluminous collection of documents transmitted by you to Her Majesty's Government within the last few months.

And with respect to the complaints of the conduct and constitution of the Legislature, if the majority of the Assembly could be induced to pass enactments in amendment of its own constitution, Her Majesty's Government would be ready to give these enactments its most attentive and favourable consideration.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 31. No. 31.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 138.)

King's House, June 6, 1865.
(Received June 29, 1865.)
(Answered, No. 237, July 7, 1865, page 208.)

Sir,

In my Despatch No. 128,† of the 6th ultimo, I transmitted a report from the Baptist Missionary Body in this Colony in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. † Page 139.

2. In that report occurs the following statement, "It is believed that a large portion "of the young criminals that fill our gaols are orphans, chiefly children of those parents "who were cut off by cholera and small-pox from 1850 to 1852, who have grown up "without parental control or moral training, and also of illegitimate children cast out "upon the world from their infancy."

3. Having called upon the Inspector of Prisons to take steps to ascertain how far this supposition was borne out by facts, I have now the honour to transmit that officer's report, accompanied by a return, which shows that the reasons suggested by the Baptist Missionary body as accounting for the number of young persons in the gaols of Jamaica are not well substantiated, the large majority of the prisoners having parents still alive,

Mr. Shaw to Mr. Austin, 3 June 1865. Return.

RETURN showing the Number of Prisoners in the General Penitentiaries, County Gaols, and District Prisons

Number in Custody.	From 10 to 20.	From 20 to 30.	From 30 to 40.	From 40 to 50.	From 50 to 60.	Above 60.	Can't tell their Ages.	TOTAL.	Fathers alive.	Mothers alive.	Fathers and Mothers alive.	Neither Fathers or Mothers alive.	Can't tell if Fathers or Mothers alive.	TOTAL.	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Can't tell if Legitimate or not.	TOTAL.	Well taken care of.	Not well taken care of.	TOTAL.	Attend Chapel and School.	Attended neither Chapel or School.	Attended Chapel only.	TOTAL.
																									GENERA
588	79	208	33	40	7	2	219	588	50	106	164	197	71	588	354	234	—	588	582	6	588	466	63	59	588
68	36	22	5	4	1	—	—	68	8	7	34	18	1	68	51	17	—	68	68	—	68	68	—	—	68
																									SURRY COUNT
15	4	6	2	2	1	—	—	15	—	5	3	6	1	15	10	5	—	15	15	—	15	10	2	3	15
4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	—	1	—	4	2	2	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	—	4
																									MIDDLESEX COUNT
33	4	14	3	2	—	—	10	33	5	—	18	10	—	33	15	17	1	33	33	—	33	20	6	7	33
																									CORNWALL COUNT
40	11	16	8	2	1	—	2	40	6	6	12	10	6	40	14	17	9	40	28	12	40	25	10	5	40
																									PORT MARIA DISTRIC
27	8	13	4	—	2	—	—	27	3	4	4	16	—	27	13	14	—	27	27	—	27	17	—	10	27
9	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	4	1	4	—	—	9	4	5	—	9	9	—	9	4	—	5	9
																									MANDEVILLE DISTRIC
123	13	68	18	10	14	—	—	123	12	32	39	38	2	123	46	77	—	123	116	7	123	64	45	14	123
																									MORANT BAY DISTRIC
36	13	8	6	7	2	—	—	36	—	—	20	10	6	36	16	14	6	36	28	8	36	19	8	9	36
2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	—	2
																									RODNEY HALL DISTRIC
40	18	10	4	6	2	—	—	40	3	22	5	10	—	40	21	19	—	40	39	1	40	27	5	8	40
3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	1	—	3	1	2	—	3	3	—	3	2	—	1	3
																									LUCEA DISTRIC
39		16	12	6	2	—	—	39	5	7	7	14	6	39	14	19	6	39	39	—	39	24	13	2	39
25	8	12	3	1	1	—	—	25	3	7	9	6	—	25	10	14	1	25	25	—	25	13	3	9	25
																									SPANISH TOWN DISTRIC
116	18	49	21	15	10	—	3	116	19	22	21	48	6	116	57	53	6	116	116	—	116	70	6	40	116
																									FALMOUTH DISTRIC
154	0	58	22	18	10	—	6	154	17	26	45	61	5	154	71	82	1	154	141	13	154	50	34	70	154
32	18	10	1	—	3	—	—	32	2	8	14	8	—	32	16	16	—	32	29	3	32	22	1	9	32

May 9, 1865.

e Island of Jamaica, whose Parents died of Cholera or Smallpox, who are Legitimate or Illegitimate, &c., &c.

Brought up by Fathers.	Brought up by Mothers.	Brought up by Fathers and Mothers.	Brought up by other Relatives.	Brought up by Masters.	Brought up by Mistress.	Total.	Lost Father by Cholera.	Lost Mother by Cholera.	Lost Father by Smallpox.	Lost Mother by Smallpox.	Lost Father and Mother by Smallpox.	Lost Father and Mother by Cholera.	Lost Father by other Causes.	Lost Mother by other Causes.	Lost Father and Mother by other Causes.	Lost neither Father or Mother.	Can't tell what Parents died of.	Total.	
ENITENTIARY.																			
30	90	366	66	19	17	588	23	6	10	9	9	56	24	11	30	164	246	588	Males.
7	33	17	3	1	7	68	2	1	1	1	2	6	1	3	5	34	12	68	Females.
AOL.																			
—	2	10	—	2	1	15	4	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	3	—	15	Males.
—	—	1	—	3	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	Females.
AOL.																			
16	8	4	4	1	—	33	—	1	—	1	1	4	—	3	11	12	—	33	Males.
AOL.																			
4	2	19	5	10	—	40	3	—	—	—	—	4	5	2	6	9	10	40	Males.
RISON.																			
4	6	9	7	1	—	27	1	2	1	1	1	5	4	2	6	4	—	27	Males.
1	2	2	3	—	1	9	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	—	9	Females.
RISON.																			
6	25	62	21	7	2	123	2	—	—	—	2	—	30	18	32	39	—	123	Males.
RISON.																			
2	4	10	14	6	—	36	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	22	10	36	Males.
—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	Females.
RISON.																			
2	13	15	9	—	1	40	5	3	2	—	—	4	16	2	3	5	—	40	Males.
—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	3	Females.
RISON.																			
5	4	11	—	13	6	39	2	1	—	—	—	—	5	4	7	6	14	39	Males.
—	4	3	—	3	15	25	1	1	—	1	—	1	5	2	2	9	3	25	Females.
RISON.																			
17	18	33	32	12	4	116	6	14	—	1	—	5	14	15	12	23	26	116	Males.
RISON.																			
13	20	101	8	10	2	154	10	4	1	1	4	11	20	7	42	46	8	154	Males.
1	3	26	1	1	—	32	5	1	1	—	—	5	4	1	1	14	—	32	Females.

EPITOME.

Ages.	
From 10 to 20	286
From 20 to 30	514
From 30 to 40	142
From 40 to 50	114
From 50 to 60	56
Above 60	2
Can't tell their ages	240
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners whose Parents are alive	796
Prisoners whose Parents are not alive	454
Prisoners who can't tell if their parents are alive	104
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners who are legitimate	715
Prisoners who are illegitimate	639
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners well taken care of	1,304
Prisoners not well taken care of	50
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners attended chapel and school	907
Prisoners attended neither chapel nor school	447
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners brought up by parents	1,036
Prisoners brought up by others than parents	318
TOTAL	1,354
Prisoners whose parents died of cholera	206
Prisoners whose parents died of smallpox	52
Prisoners can't tell what their parents died of	329
Prisoners whose parents died of other causes than cholera or smallpox	360
Prisoners whose parents are alive	407
TOTAL	1,354

JAMAICA.

a still greater proportion being reported as having been well cared for, and more than two thirds as having been accustomed to attend chapel and school.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. in No. 31.

Enclosure in No. 31.

Mr. SHAW to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Inspector of Prisons Office, Kingston, June 3, 1865.

I HEREWITH transmit for his Excellency the Governor the return called for in your letter No. 773, dated 4th May last.

I would respectfully submit that this return does not bear out the reasons suggested that so many young persons are in our prisons.

Trusting that the return (of which I have sent a duplicate) will be found correct,

I have, &c.

Honourable H. W. Austin, Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) H. B. SHAW, Inspector of Prisons.

No. 32.

No 32.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 237.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 7, 1865.

* Page 205.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 138,* of 6th June, forwarding a report and a return from the Inspector of Prisons relative to a statement made in a report from the Baptist Missionary body on the subject of young criminals in the gaols in Jamaica.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 33.

No. 33.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 142.)

King's House, June 6, 1865.

(Received, June 29, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 239, July 7, 1865, page 210.)

Resolutions.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of resolutions (forwarded to me for the purpose) which were passed at public meetings in Clarendon and Manchester relative to Dr. Underhill's letter.

Mr. Lowe to Mr. Austin, 2 June 1865.

I append also copy of a report upon these resolutions by the custos of the parish.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 33.

Enclosure 1 in No. 33.

RESOLUTIONS adopted at Public Meetings in Clarendon and Manchester, representing 2,000 persons chiefly of the labouring classes.

I. This meeting having heard the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Honourable E. Cardwell relative to the present distress in this Island, would record its deliberate conviction that the depressed condition of all classes fully justifies the statements contained therein, and would express its sympathy with the proprietors and managers of estates in the loss they must sustain from the severe drought and low prices of colonial produce, no less than with the peasantry in the failure of their provisions, scarcity of employment, and diminished wages.

II. This meeting believes the severe suffering of the labouring classes arises chiefly from the same drought and scarcity of employment; but it views with alarm the continual decline of the proprietary body, feeling assured that in the prosperity of the planting interests is bound up the material well-being of all classes of the community.

III. This meeting, considering the depressed condition of the Colony, and the crushing weight of taxation that is hastening the ruin of all classes, views it as a matter of anxious concern to every well-wisher of the country, and one that calls loudly upon the Island Legislature as well as the British Government for a searching inquiry into the cause of this decline, and would earnestly request the Home Government to institute such inquiry, under its own auspices, with a view of applying such remedial measures as its wisdom may suggest.

IV. This meeting believes that the depressed condition of the planting interests arises in a great measure from the unrighteous competition they have to maintain with the slave-grown produce of Cuba, and it views it only as an act of justice to the free colonies of Great Britain that the Spanish Government should be required to observe her treaties in reference to the slave trade, while it believes the present time most favourable for enforcing such treaties.

V. This meeting believes the distress of the peasantry arises in part from the uncertain tenure of rented lands, which limits cultivation, induces modes of industry exhaustive of the soil, while it confines attention to ground provision alone; and this meeting is of opinion that were some provision made for encouraging lengthened occupation of rented lands, while it protected the rights of property, it would prove alike advantageous to the peasant and proprietor, and promote the interests of the colony at large.

VI. This meeting feels that Dr. Underhill has laid all classes in the Colony under a debt of gratitude for his letter to the Honourable E. Cardwell, calling attention to the impoverished condition of the Island, and would urge upon the peasantry the importance of their manifesting gratitude by increased persevering industry in the cultivation for export those articles indicated in his letter.

VII. That copies of these resolutions be signed by the chairman, and forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, for transmission to the Honourable E. Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and also to Dr. Underhill, requesting his influence to secure the objects set forth in the foregoing resolutions, and that they be published in the Island papers.

(Signed) Wm. Claydon,
Baptist Missionary, Chairman.
Geo. Moodie,
Secretary.

Enclosure 2 in No. 33.

Encl. 2 in No. 33.

From Mr. Lowe to Mr. Austin.

Sir, Chapelton, Clarendon, June 2, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ult., No. 855, with a copy of certain resolutions adopted at a meeting held in this parish, and forwarded by direction of his Excellency the Governor, for me to report upon, as well as on the meeting itself.

(1.) The meeting appears to have been got up by the Rev. Mr. Claydon (not by requisition to myself as custos, as is usual when public meetings are desired), and was held in the Baptist Chapel at Four Paths, in which that gentleman officiates it was attended by between 400 and 500 persons of the labouring classes, but beyond the Rev. Mr. Claydon and two or three clergymen of his persuasion; I could not hear of any person of position or education being present.

(2.) In a statement which I had the honour of making a short time ago on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter to the Colonial Minister, I represented that in the district under consideration labourers wages had been reduced 25 per cent., and it is scarcely necessary to point out that the demand for labour is lessened in periods of drought. Ground provisions also are dearer, and within the last few months the price has risen fully one fourth above the average at this period of the year. These circumstances will account for a certain amount of distress, but the unwillingness to labour must be taken as the true cause of anything beyond it.

(3.) There has been but one sugar estate abandoned in the district for the last 12 years or more, a poor one named Clarendon Park; the cultivation of the others is performed principally by coolies, but for whose services six large and valuable estates must have succumbed long ago.

(4.) The capricious nature of creole labour, at no time continuous, led to the introduction of these strangers, and it is fairly to be presumed that had the scarcity of employment been discussed at the meeting so striking a fact must have come under remark.

(5.) Four Paths, in which Mr. Claydon resides, is an arid district for the most part, and consequently poorer than others in the parish, hence the necessity of renting lands higher up the country, which considerable numbers do, but with what advantage to themselves I am unable to say. I should think it profitable, however, there being so little supervision on the part of the owners that the renter of one acre is in most instances the cultivator of many, and he appears to prefer this to purchasing land, although it prevents exportable products forming any part of his cultivation, from the length of time required to bring them forward.

(6.) I do not consider that his Excellency can require any remarks from me on the subject of taxation or other subjects contained in the resolutions, which I have left unnoticed; but I may observe that the very favourable weather of the last few weeks must have given the small settlers ample occupation in their grounds.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Francis Lowe,
Custos.

The Hon. H. W. Austin,
Governor's Secretary.

JAMAICA.

No. 34.

No. 34.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 239.)

Downing Street, July 7, 1865.

SIR,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 142* of June 6th forwarding a copy of resolutions which were passed at public meetings in Clarendon and Manchester relative to Dr. Underhill's letter, together with a copy of a report upon those resolutions by the custos of the parish.

* Page 208.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 35.

No. 35.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

King's House, June 7, 1865.

(No. 143.)

(Received, June 29, 1865.)

SIR,

(Answered, No. 238, July 7, 1865, page 211.)

Deputation to Governor Eyre, 7 June 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit certain resolutions (presented to me for the purpose) which were passed at a public meeting in Spanish Town in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter.

Resolutions adopted 16 May 1865.

2. There is no custos in this district to whom I could refer for a report.

3. The meeting appears to be a counterpart of the one which took place in Kingston, and some of the same parties, as Mr. Kelly Smith and Mr. Joseph Goldson, took part in both.

4. Resolution 5, in enumerating the occupations of the inhabitants of Spanish Town, affords an apt illustration of the character of the people.

If the statement given is correct it appears that out of 3,124 persons living in Spanish Town, 1,900 are tradesmen, mechanics, sempstresses, or servants.

So true it is that the people prefer their children being brought up to such occupations, with the certainty of being unable to obtain sufficient employment therein, to putting them to agricultural labour, at which any industrious and steady person may always do well.

Spanish Town is stated to be the capital of the Island. It is certainly the seat of Government; but Kingston is the centre of commerce, and Spanish Town is little more than a large village in its character or requirements, as regards artisans tradespeople or servants.

I have, &c.

The Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 35.

Enclosure 1 in No. 35.

DEPUTATION to Governor Eyre.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica, &c.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

Spanish Town, June 7, 1865.

WE, the undersigned, who were appointed a deputation by the chairman of a public meeting held on the 16th May 1865 at the above town, to consider the letter of Dr. Underhill to the Colonial Secretary, beg respectfully to hand to your Excellency copies of the resolutions which were adopted at that meeting, and to request that your Excellency will be pleased to transmit a copy of the resolutions so delivered to the Right Honorable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

We have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES O'MEALLY.
WALTER WHITFINCH.
THOS. M. WOLFE.
HENRY HINCHCLIFFE.
WILLIAM ROBERTSON.
ROBERT O'MEALLY.
JOHN A. M'PHERSON.

Enclosure 2 in No. 35. JAMAICA.

AT a public Meeting called by requisition to the Honorable Richard Hill, held at the Court-house, Spanish Town, on Tuesday the 16th May 1865, A. H. Lewis, Esquire, one of the representatives of this parish, in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Resolved,—

1st. That this meeting deeply deplores the present depressed state of the inhabitants of this Colony, and takes this opportunity of expressing its sentiments, especially at this period, when the philanthropists of England are trying to alleviate those distresses by bringing the same before the British Government.

Resolved,—

2d. That this meeting views with alarm the distressed condition of nearly all classes of the people of this Colony, from the want of employment, in consequence of the abandonment of a large number of estates, and the staple of the country being no longer remunerative, caused by being brought into unequal competition with slave-grown produces.

Resolved,—

3d. That this meeting feels seriously the distressed state of the mechanics of this country, who are suffering from the injustice done to them by the Legislature having imposed the same import duty of 12½ per cent. on the raw materials as on the manufactured articles imported into this Island, not only from the mother country but also from the United States, thus paralyzing the industry and crippling the energies of the tradespeople of this country.

Resolved,—

4th, That in consequence of such distress from no work being obtainable many of the inhabitants, chiefly tradespeople, have been compelled to leave their homes to seek employment in foreign climes, and many others are only deterred from doing so because they do not know what is to become of their families in their absence.

Resolved,—

5th. That as an illustration of the general distress this meeting gives as an example that there are in Spanish Town, the capital of the Island, nearly 150 carpenters, 60 masons, 91 shoemakers, 127 tailors, 772 seamstresses, and 800 servants, amounting in all to about 1,900 individuals, out of an adult population of 3,124 of all classes, many of whom are without knowing where to obtain their daily bread, and all of whom are suffering more or less from the high prices of food and raiment, and excessive taxation.

Resolved,—

6th. That whilst recent legislation has been directed to endeavour to reduce crime by increasing the severity of punishment, no attention whatever has been given by the Legislature to the establishment of proper reformatories and a sound system of education.

Resolved,—

7th. That in reference to the letter of Dr. Underhill, addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, we, Her most gracious Majesty's loyal subjects, assembled this day, do corroborate the statements made by that gentleman, and do most cordially record our grateful thanks to him for the warm sympathy he has evinced towards suffering humanity in this Island.

Resolved,—

8th. That a copy of the resolutions of this meeting be respectfully presented by a deputation appointed by the chairman to his Excellency the Governor, to be by him transmitted to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that a copy be forwarded to Doctor Underhill, and that the same be signed by the Chairman and Secretary on behalf of this meeting.

(Signed) A. H. LEWIS,
Chairman.
JNO. S. M'PHERSON,
Secretary.

No. 36.

No. 36.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 238.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 7, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 143* of 7th June, forwarding with your remarks certain resolutions passed at a public meeting in Spanish Town on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter. Page 210.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

JAMAICA.

No. 37.

No. 37.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

King's House, June 19, 1865.

(No. 148.)

(Received, July 14. 1865.)

(Answered, No. 266, August 4, 1865, page 215.)

SIR,

Enclosure 1.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a memorial (forwarded to me for the purpose) addressed to you by a committee appointed at a public meeting held in Hanover to take into consideration Dr. Underhill's letter.

Enclosure 2. Extract from "Falmouth Post" of 23 May 1865.

2. The custos of the parish being absent from the Island, I am unable to obtain that functionary's report.

I append, however, extracts from the two local newspapers, the "Falmouth Post" and "County Union," giving an account of the proceedings at the meeting.

Extract from "County Union" of 23 May 1865.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) E. EYRE.

&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 37.

Enclosure 1 in No. 37.

Mr. BROWNE to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Lucea, June 5, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 869 of 29th ultimo.

I beg leave to forward to his Excellency the Governor, for transmission to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, the memorial of certain of the inhabitants of the parish of Hanover, in public meeting assembled at the Court-house in this town on the 17th ultimo, of which I was appointed chairman.

I have, &c.

Hon. H. W. Austin, Governor's Secretary. (Signed) WM. BROWNE.

To the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, the memorial of the inhabitants of the parish of Hanover in Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica.

Humbly and respectfully showeth—

That your memorialists, being called together in public meeting on the 17th day of May 1865, in the Court-house, Lucea, in consequence of a requisition to the Hon. H. A. Whitelocke, custos of the parish, for the purpose of giving distinct expression to their views regarding the present state of the Colony, assembled in very large numbers on the occasion, there having been upwards of 1,000 persons of all classes in the place of meeting, whilst a much larger number were collected outside, deeply interested in the object of the meeting, but not able to obtain admission from want of room.

That the parish of Hanover, which is of considerable extent, and contains about 25,000 inhabitants, was thus on this occasion fully represented in all its different classes, and after a full discussion, at which every one who desired was invited to express his opinions, the following resolutions were cordially and unanimously adopted:—

First, That the present state of the Island is so depressed as not only to cause much hardship, but also to awaken the most serious apprehension in regard to the future, and although the descriptions which have been publicly given, of the extreme distress existing in other parts of the country do not apply to this parish, and we would deprecate all extravagent representations on the subject, such as are fitted to give erroneous views of our true condition, yet there is at present a greater amount of poverty and hardship experienced by all classes of our population than has existed since the era of emancipation.

Second, That this gloomy and distressing state of matters, although it may have been aggravated, has not been occasioned by any recent circumstances, but has been gradually coming upon us; and that it appears to us to arise principally from the facts that our exportable produce has in most instances been unremunerative; that the amount expended on the cultivation of our large properties has, in consequence, been greatly diminished; and that the price of necessary articles of clothing, which have unhappily been of an inferior quality, has, during the last few years, been much increased.

Third, That very decided measures of relief are now imperatively demanded; and whilst we would deprecate, except in extreme cases of poverty and destitution, the bestowal of all eleemosynary aid, as calculated still farther to degrade and to pauperize the people, yet we consider that the taxation of the country is greater than its present circumstances can bear, and that the same ought accordingly to be reduced in such a way as may least affect the security of life and property.

Fourth, That this meeting would specify the abolition of all export duties on produce, the free admission of all agricultural implements and machines used in the cultivation of the soil and in the preparation of its productions, and the imposition of only a nominal tax on horse kind and asses used in agriculture and in the conveyance of produce to the market, as measures which ought to be adopted as soon as possible, for the purpose of increasing productions by stimulating and encouraging the industry of the country; and would also suggest the propriety, if at all practicable, of suspending, for a time at least, the import duty on calicoes and the coarser fabrics used principally for clothing by the labouring population.

Fifth, That a memorial, embodying the foregoing resolutions, be prepared, and transmitted through the Governor to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, and that he be earnestly entreated to take the case of Jamaica into his most serious

consideration, and to indicate to the Governor the views which from reliable information furnished to him he may be brought to entertain of what may be and ought to be done by the executive authority in this Island (which under our new constitution is endowed with so much power) to arrest the continued decline and to revive the languishing interests of this country, which has already suffered so much from the unjust and the unholy competition into which it has been brought with slave-grown produce, and which is now so deeply depressed.

Sixth, That while this meeting feel it to be right and dutiful to adopt these resolutions, and to present the claims therein specified, they would also, with deep humility, acknowledge the Divine hand. They desire to express the fear that the afflictive dealings with which the land has been visited have not been sanctified, and that there is sad evidence of this in the prevalence of crime, and of many forms of ungodliness. They would therefore humble themselves under the mighty hand of God, and beseech Him to visit the land in mercy, being assured that "righteousness exalteth a nation, while sin is the reproach and ruin of any people."

In accordance with the fifth of the foregoing resolutions, your memorialists, feeling that Jamaica is now in a most critical condition, and that the welfare of our whole population depends, under God, both on the imperial policy towards the country, and on the proper regulation of its internal affairs by the constituted authorities, beg most earnestly, and with all the respect which is due to yourself personally, and to the high position which you occupy, to entreat you to take into your most serious consideration the case of this suffering land.

We are aware that information on the subject is being forwarded to you from different parts of the Island; and although there are, as might have been expected, conflicting opinions as to the causes of our present state, and the remedies, yet we believe that there is and cannot but be entire unanimity as to the fact that we are indeed brought very low, and that men's hearts are failing them for fear of still deeper calamity and distress.

We are grateful that a gentleman of your distinguished talent and great experience has been placed by Her Majesty in the principal direction of colonial affairs, and that as loyal subjects of our most Gracious Queen we have the privilege of asking your earnest attention to our circumstances, in the hope that you will feel it to be consistent with your duty to give such indications of your views and such instructions as will, by the Divine blessing, tend greatly to our benefit.

Your memorialists cannot close without adding that they have never ceased to feel the injustice which was done to them, and to the cause of universal freedom, when slave-grown produce was admitted into the British market. The language of present events, especially on the American continent, seems loudly to proclaim that slavery is doomed in every part of the world; and it would rejoice our hearts if, on the high ground of principle, the British nation would now resolve to reject all the productions of slave labour, and thus speedily secure that most desirable consummation, for which the British people have already done and sacrificed so much. In that event, assuredly, the blessing of him that is ready to perish, and especially the all-enriching blessing of Him who is the Deliverer of the oppressed, and who prospers all who love His ways and do His will, shall descend more fully than ever on our beloved mother land.

With the greatest respect, and in name and by the appointment of the inhabitants of the parish of Hanover, in public meeting assembled,

Your memorialists subscribe themselves,

Your most obedient humble servants,

WM. BROWNE, J.P.,
Chairman.
EDWD. SHARP, J.P.,
JOHN CAMPBELL,
Presbyterian Minister.
WARREND CARLISLE,
Presbyterian Minister.
ANDREW J. DAVIDSON,
Rector of Hanover.
JAMES STEWART TRENCH,
Clerk of the Peace.
JOSEPH K. COLLYMORE,
Head Master, Rusea's
Free School, Hanover.

Enclosure 2 in No. 37.

Encl. 2 in No. 37.

EXTRACT from "Falmouth Post," Tuesday, May 23, 1865.

PUBLIC MEETING IN HANOVER.

SIR, Lucea, Hanover, May 18, 1865.

KNOWING that you take much interest in this parish, I thought I may as well send you a few lines in the way of description of a public meeting which was held at the Court-house in this town, yesterday. I had previously learned that one of its principal objects was an impartial inquiry into the allegations of Dr. Underhill, addressed by that gentlemen to the Colonial Secretary. This is my parish, Sir; and I confess I was rather startled when I was made acquainted with the very strong and unqualified language used in the now celebrated letter, and however true it might be when applied to other districts, my experience at once declared them as inapplicable to this precinct. I was glad, therefore, when I saw crowds of the great mass of the population assembled in the spacious hall of the building where the meeting was held. One could have wished the doctor to have been present. The stalwart forms of four or five hundred (some say more, but I like to be within bounds,) of the labourers of the parish, with a good sprinkling of crinolined and handkerchief-turbaned females, in itself a pleasing sight, afforded anything but corroborative testimony of the assertion that the distress,

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undeniably prevailing had fixed its firmest grasp on the labouring and black population of Hanover. I say, Sir, considering these outward emblems of comfort, at least I anticipated that the proceedings would be characterized by that gravity of demeanor which the consideration of the important object for which the meeting was called required, and which had hitherto distinguished similar assemblages. I was much disappointed. The peasantry of Jamaica have failings as well as those of other countries. That portion assembled in the Court-house yesterday seemed to have imbibed ideas which acted on their worst passions, and made them insensible to manly feeling. But I am anticipating.

At 12 o'clock the chair was taken by William Browne, Esquire, on request of the promoters of the movement, and he, in appropriate and sensible terms, introduced the subject for which the meeting was called, and having read the Honourable H. A. Whitelocke's letter authorizing it, he requested Mr. Sharp of Haughton Court to move the first resolution. That gentleman rose, and after briefly alluding to the absence of the custos, which he lamented, not less on account of the cause, which was his severe illness, he proceeded to enlarge on the resolution which he held in his hand, and had appropriately referred to most of the salient points, such as the depressed state of the country, and the serious apprehensions which might thence be justly entertained, &c. As a planter, he was just taking a professional glance at the expediency of taking off the export duty on sugar and rum, which was levied for immigration purposes, when, as by a preconcerted signal, stentorian lungs gave forth, with a vigour and a power, which were irresistible, "No no, they would have no immigration," just as if he had been advocating an increased taxation for that purpose, and wishing it to be specially levied on them. The uproar and howling continued; at last Mr. Trench got up, and with a few good-humoured observations, restored quiet, and then Mr. Sharp was allowed to conclude his speech. The chairman called on Mr. J. K. Collymore to second the resolution, and the audience graciously granting him a patient hearing, he addressed them briefly from the jury box, to which he was obliged to betake himself on account of the crowded state of the room. Mr. Trench, the clerk of the peace, was to move the second resolution. He commenced, and spoke for a few minutes, with that eloquence which is not only habitual but is in reality a singular gift of his. From subsequent discoveries I can now perceive that the obstructionists recognized Mr. Trench as an opponent of that movement which now is propelled by certain parties, and which tends to the degradation of the manhood of Jamaica, by the advocacy and the offer and reception of eleemosynary aid; and then they yelled and roared. Hearing was out of the question. At every attempt made by the speaker to resume the connexion of his argument, the noise and the din recommenced with progressive violence. In a lull Mr. Trench took the advantage, and in most sarcastic terms, alluding to the uncourteous manner with which he had been treated, informed the meeting he had more self-respect than to address it further. As soon as Mr. Trench had sat down, the Rev. Mr. Randall, Baptist Minister, of Gurney's Mount, got up, and addressing the meeting said that there had really been no occasion for the uproar; that Mr. Trench had uttered nothing to which he had not cordially assented, and requested them to be patient, and to give each speaker a fair hearing. He asked them to believe, that though young in years, if any sentiment was uttered which he believed militated against their interests he would not hesitate to get up and combat it.

The patronizing air of the reverend gentleman, the pretty ready acquiescence of the disturbers in his request, and the almost admitted suspicion that the highly respectable gentlemen who in the interest of the public had promoted the gathering, and whose life and conduct were beyond all praise, wanted to hinder the full effect of the sweeping terms of Dr. Underhill's letter, afforded the key for resolving the noisy tactics of the party, who had so far succeeded in destroying the harmony of the meeting. Dr. Underhill's statement must not be questioned, not even in the minutest detail. The subscription now set on foot in Great Britain for the "starving and naked" people of Jamaica must, with stern facts to the contrary, be voted, not only necessary, but urgent, and forced on those, who, although the times are undeniably pressing and pinching, still prefer to struggle, with noble manly feeling, than accept alms, with which it is more than probable they may be taunted in future years, and serve as an argument for the lower estimation of the black people by the inhabitants of the British Isles. Quiet being again restored, the chairman called on Mr. James H. Caseley to second the resolution read by Mr. Trench. Some decency seemed to obtain, and that gentleman addressed with considerable fluency some remarks to the meeting, and when he had ceased the resolution was put and adopted. The next in order was to be moved by the Rev. John Campbell, but before he commenced the chairman took occasion to remark that it would at least be decorous to give that gentleman a patient and respectful hearing, as he had given numerous proofs of his philanthropy and patriotism, which required no eulogium at his hands. The reverend gentleman commenced, and proceeded at some length with his speech, but as soon as he began to tread on that delicate ground, the inexpediency of eleemosynary aid, the shouting and yelling recommenced. The startling conclusion was arrived at by the ingrates, in whose behalf these good men had assembled, that to declare alms was unnecessary at least for Hanover from the benevolent people of England was to deny the general distress of the country, and its rapid incline towards ultimate ruin. With some effort, tranquillity was in a measure restored, and Mr. Campbell concluded a speech of much power with reference to the true cause of Jamaica's trouble; its crying awful sins, the turning away from which, he assured his auditors, was the only way of attaining to that happy national state which the Psalmist has pictured as "the earth bringing forth its increase, and God, even our own God," continually blessing it. Addresses were subsequently delivered by Mr. Hutchinson, the Wesleyan missionary stationed in the town, and by the Rev. A. J. Davidson, the rector, on the duty of humiliation under the Divine hand in the present emergency. This being generally allowed was permitted to pass without demonstration. The Rev. Mr. Randal and the Rev. Mr. Bourke, Baptist Missionaries, also delivered speeches, in which the admitted troubles of the country were descanted on, coupled with declarations that the truth of Dr. Underhill's statements had been established; but these passed without verbal contradiction. The speakers, I suppose, deeming it injudicious to recommence a war of words, whilst the resolutions previously adopted stated with sufficient negative effect the details of abject misery as applicable to Hanover.

I have, &c.

OBSERVER.

EXTRACT from "County Union," 23d May 1865.

PUBLIC MEETING IN HANOVER.

A meeting was held at the Court-house at Lucea, on Wednesday the 17th May, to consider the present state of the Island. At 12 o'clock great crowds of persons began to assemble at the Court-house, and at half past 12, the hour fixed for the meeting, the large room, the grand jury room, and lobby, were so much thronged that it was with difficulty that any could wend their way through them.

On the platform were observed, the Rector the Reverends W. Carlisle, J. Campbell, W. Burke, C. E. Randall, and J. Hutcheson, and Messrs. W. Browne, J. S. Trench, E. Sharpe, R. M. Gordon, J. S. Casely, and many others.

The meeting was the most turbulent and disorderly one ever witnessed in the Court-house. It seems that an idea had got abroad among many that money was to be distributed among the people, and others were impressed with the idea that certain gentlemen on the platform had taken their places there to refute the fact of the people being in a distressed condition. It was with much difficulty that the Rev. Mr. Campbell could be heard, intimating that Mr. Browne had consented to take the Chair.

Mr. Browne was interrupted several times in his introductory address, and angry conversations were carried on by different parties in several parts of the hall, who seemed to pay little or no attention to what was said to them from the platform.

Mr. E. Sharpe (a planting attorney of long standing, and who has always liberally identified himself with the people's welfare,) rose to move the first resolution, which was to the effect, "That although "all extravagance of expression was to be deprecated, yet without a doubt a greater degree of "poverty and distress exists now than has been felt since the period of emancipation." The speaker had not proceeded far when, in the mildest way, alluding to the subject of emancipation, he expressed his opinion that an influx of population of the right kind would benefit the country generally, he was instantly besieged with a perfect storm of words from the audience, who refused to hear him, roaring out "No! No! No!" The chairman and other gentlemen interfered, intreating the people to be calm, and to listen to what Mr. S. had to say. With difficulty they were induced to do so, and Mr. Sharpe prudently avoiding all that could in the most remote degree run counter to the popular prejudice, speedily closed his address.

Mr. Trench rose to move the second resolution, which stated the causes of the existence of this poverty and distress, viz., the abandonment of the estates, the high prices of clothing, and several other causes, to which no person in their proper senses could possibly dissent. With difficulty, and by speaking as loud as he could, he endeavoured to make the resolution heard. He commenced his address by admitting to the fullest extent the existence of deep poverty and distress among all classes, "but," he added, "exaggeration is to be avoided; there is such a thing as overdrawing the most "heart-rending picture." The demonstration which followed this simple observation beggars description, and such as is never witnessed save at the closing scene of a strongly contested and exciting election. The audience roared like inmates of bedlams! Clenched fists were lifted above the crowd, and seemed to threaten the annihilation of any one who would dare to assert that the picture of poverty was capable of being overdrawn! Mr. Trench being unable to obtain a hearing, with bitter sarcasm thanked them for their mild and genteel behaviour towards him, and gave them leave to evince similar courtesy when he should again take the trouble of addressing them.

The Rev. John Campbell (who ranks first among the philanthropists of the country, the founder of the Society of Industry, of the Hanover Savings Bank, and other societies calculated to benefit the public,) next rose to propose the third resolution. In the course of his addresses he stated that the people wanted no eleemosynary aid; they required no charity from England, except for the old and decrepid. "We do, yes! yes! yes!" roared, and continued to roar, a thousand voices, till the prolonged sound of the words seemed to hiss the reverend and universally revered speaker who, for several minutes after, was unable to obtain a hearing. The scene was of a most painful description, and serious thoughts were entertained of adjourning the meeting. By great perseverance the reverend gentleman succeeded in proceeding with his address, and later in the day, when a number of the more turbulent of the audience seemed to have left, the excitement being partially subsided, the speakers who followed were treated with more courtesy and consideration than those who preceded them. Resolutions were passed, and an address agreed to be sent to Mr. Cardwell, the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The parish of Hanover has of late years been putting forth a claim to be considered a model parish, so far as concerns the intelligence and orderly behaviour of her middle men, and the order and decorum observed at meetings for the consideration of popular questions; but we fear that the disgraceful conduct exhibited at the meeting of the 17th instant goes far towards the forfeiture of this claim. From no other parish have we heard of discourtesy and indecency like this being shown towards gentlemen of position, who, in the present crisis, have come forward with pure and disinterested motives to address words of counsel and advice for the benefit of the country.

No. 38.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 266.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 4, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 148,* of 19th June, forwarding a memorial addressed to me by a committee appointed at a public meeting held in Hanover to take into consideration Dr. Underhill's letter.

* Page 212.

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The memorialists request me to indicate my views of what is required to alleviate the alleged distress in the Colony, and they advert to the Act for the better government of the Island as conferring much power upon the Executive Government.

The powers of the Government under that Act are of a negative character. The Government is enabled to prevent the waste of public money by improvident grants; but the Government is not enabled to adopt any measures, howsoever urgently called for, which cannot be effected without legislation, and in which the Legislature is not willing to co-operate.

Even, however, were it possible to obtain the co-operation of the Legislature in all the measures which the Government would regard as conducive to the welfare of the people, the people must not be led to suppose that any measures could be effectual to restore prosperity to Jamaica unless they should be accompanied by greater industry on the part of the labourers. If the labourers in Jamaica would work continuously and steadily as labourers do in other countries, the usual period of a day's labour for every day, they would prosper themselves and other classes would prosper.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 39.

No. 39.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

King's House, June 20, 1865.

(No. 149.)

(Received, July 14, 1865.)

SIR,

(Answered, No. 256, July 31, 1865, page 220).

Mr. Justice Kemble to the Governor, 7 June 1865.

Mr. Justice Ker to Mr. Austin, 7 June 1865.

Mr. Justice Ker to the Governor, 10 June 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit two reports by Mr. Justice Kemble and Mr. Justice Ker in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. Both these documents bear out generally the remarks which I have addressed to you on the same subject.

2. I would particularly call your attention to the opinion expressed by Mr. Justice Kemble as to the necessity of resorting to corporal punishment for the purpose of correcting the universally prevailing crime of larceny. I am quite satisfied in my own mind, from a long practical experience in the West Indies, that no other punishment would prove equally efficacious.

3. The remarks of Mr. Justice Ker as to the unadvisability of extending the franchise for the purpose of securing for the mass of the population a better consideration of their interests in the House of Assembly are very just. Any such extension would inevitably lead to greater demoralization amongst the electors, and to the election of a class of persons whose characters and antecedents would not offer any prospect of their being useful or honest legislators.

4. The subjects touched upon by Mr. Justice Ker as some upon which a retrenchment of expenditure is necessary or practicable are very important ones, but they require very careful consideration, and what in the abstract may appear desirable is not always feasible.

5. In the case of the Established Church, for instance, there can be no question but that the cost of this establishment is large in proportion to the revenue or to the more general expenditure. It is also at variance with the principles or system which prevail in the more recently founded colonies.

But it has been a fundamental part of the colonial system in the West Indies, little felt in the days of their prosperity; while to withdraw it now, or greatly reduce it, would be to withdraw the means of religious teaching from a large mass of the people.

Dr. Underhill's communication, and the reports upon which it was founded, would show that the Baptists find a large falling off in the payments made to their body; nor can it be expected that in the decayed and decaying state of Jamaica any adequate provision would be made for the support of their ministry by a people hitherto accustomed to have such provision made out of the general revenue, and who have great objections to direct taxation in any shape.

6. Nor do I think it would be found practicable to induce the Legislative bodies to reduce the expenditure in connexion with the official staff attached to their own respective establishments, or to make the other reductions suggested. A recent instance has shown that there is a great unwillingness to abolish a single office, even where the public service could be as efficiently carried on without it, and a considerable saving of public money could be effected.

I refer to the refusal of the House of Assembly to amalgamate the offices of Governor's and Island Secretary, under an arrangement which would have saved to the Colony 600*l.* per annum, whilst ample provision would have been made for the discharge of all the duties of both offices.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 39.

Mr. Justice KEMBLE to the GOVERNOR.

SIR, Spanish Town, June 7, 1865.

IN accordance wtth your Excellency's request, I beg to report my views and opinions in reference to certain statements and remarks made by Dr. Underhill in his letter of the 5th January last to the Secretary of State to the Colonies.

2. That distress exists among the coloured population of this Colony, and that crime (especially the crime of larceny) has also increased, there can be no doubt; but I confess in my opinion Dr. Underhill has over estimated that distress, and has I think erred in attributing the increase of crime entirely to the extreme poverty of the people. "That this is its true origin," he says, "is made evident "by the ragged and even naked condition of vast numbers of them, so contrary to the taste for dress "they usually exhibit."

3. Now in the exercise of my circuit duties I visit in turn during the year every parish in the Island, and I have therefore ample opportunity for remarking any striking change in the outward appearance and condition of the mass of the people; but I must confess that I have failed to discover any difference or alteration in their general mode of dress. In some parts of the country, no doubt, especially in the vicinity of estates where coolies are located as labourers, cases of raggedness and almost nudity are to be met with; but though the coloured population (as well as other portions of the community) have doubtless been seriously inconvenienced by the present high prices of cotton goods, it is, as far as my observation enables me to judge, an exaggeration to say that "vast numbers of the people have been reduced to such abject poverty as to have become ragged and even naked."

4. Again, if the increase of larceny is properly attributable to the "extreme poverty of the people," it is natural to suppose that cases would be of frequent occurrence in the criminal courts of the country tending to show that to have been the actuating motive for the commission of such crime; but I think it right to state, that of all the numerous cases of larceny tried before me in the circuit courts I cannot at this moment call to mind a single instance in which the evidence tended to show that the crime was attributable to necessity or poverty, much less to any fear of starvation, nor any case in which the crime was attempted to be extenuated by the offender on those grounds; but, on the contrary, in by far the greater number of cases the offenders have been apparently healthy, strong, and able-bodied people (more frequently of the younger class), who appeared to have preferred preying upon the property of others to exerting themselves in honest industry for the acquirement of property of their own. Of course I speak only of what has fallen within my own experience, and I am personally unaware whether the observations I have made are applicable to the offences and offenders, dealt with by the magistrates in the parochial courts of the Colony.

5. As far as my own personal observation enables me to judge, then, Dr. Underhill has magnified the prevailing distress, and the increase of crime is not to be attributed to the "extreme poverty of the people."

Doubtless, however, considerable distress does exist, for which Dr. Underhill assigns various causes, such as the prevalence of drought, excessive taxation, the increased cost of clothing, the depressed state of the sugar market, the worn-out state of much of the land used in cane cultivation, the uncultivated state of other portions of the Island, and a want of employment for the people. "There is," he says, "neither work for them, nor the capital to employ them. The labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done."

Although it would be difficult, I think, to point out how the present amount of taxation could well be materially diminished, consistently with the requirements of the public service, and though I cannot avoid expressing my surprise at the statement that the labouring class is too numerous for the work to be done, I offer no opinion as to the correctness or otherwise of Dr. Underhill's statements in these respects, because I feel satisfied that the opinions of those leading and influential gentlemen in each parish, many of them members of the Legislature, and largely interested and engaged in agricultural pursuits, to whom I believe your Excellency has referred Dr. Underhill's letter, will, from their practical knowledge of these questions, and more especially of the state and requirements of the labour market, be of far more value than my own. I shall pass over also the vague charges of Dr. Underhill against the Jamaica Legislature, "of their unjust taxation of the coloured population, of their refusal of just tribunals, of their denial of political rights to the emancipated negroes," with the remark that I am at a loss to understand to what Dr. Underhill alludes, as I am aware of no exceptional legislation in respect of the coloured population. As regards taxation, the administration of justice, or the exercise of political rights, they stand in these respects, as in all others, in the same position as other portions of of the community.

Admitting then the existence of considerable distress (whatever be the origin of it) I shall confine myself to the consideration of that which it is more in my province to consider, namely, first, to the inquiry as to what the increase of crime should be attributed, and secondly, as to the best remedy to be adopted.

6. This is no doubt a most important question, requiring great consideration, and one which I confess myself unable satisfactorily to solve.

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7. It appears to me, however, that though the increase of crime may with truth be partially attributed to existing poverty and distress, by far the greater portion of such increase, and most of the poverty and distress, is attributable to the indolence and moral depravity now so widely prevailing among the lower classes of the population. They live in a country blessed with a most fertile soil, and in a climate most congenial to their nature, and peculiarly adapted to their constitution they are, generally speaking, healthy, vigorous, and muscular. Were they but imbued with industrious habits they might be the happiest among mankind. Two days cultivation in each week of a small patch of land enables any able-bodied labourer to provide for all his wants, which are but few and simple; but, unfortunately, these obtained, he too often spends the remainder of the week in idleness and making others idle, contracts bad habits, becomes more and more incapable of work, and at length, in the event of the failure of the provision grounds through drought, his own indolence, or any other cause, instead of resorting to honest labour he does not hestitate to steal.

8. It may be asked how is it the evilly disposed are not deterred from the commission of crime by fear of the punishment they may incur on detection?

The answer is found in the words of the Inspector General of Prisons, in his annual report. "The Penitentiary is not the terror to evil-doers it should be;" there is a sad want of moral sense among the people. In general a sentence to the Penitentiary or any other prison involves no shame. Convicts incur no loss of reputation among their families and friends. At the expiration of their sentence they are as welcome as before. Mentally, therefore, they suffer no punishment at all; and the bodily punishment of imprisonment and hard labour which they undergo they think but lightly of, for it is necessarily accompanied by good shelter, wholesome food, and necessary clothing, all found for them without thought or trouble on their part. The consequence is, that prisoners too frequently on regaining their liberty at the expiration of their sentences return to their criminal pursuits, and second and subsequent convictions are frequent. The increase of crime is then, I think, mainly attributable to the existence of a wide-spread idleness and a general laxity of morals among the labouring and lower classes of the community.

9. Next, as to the remedy. The mass of the population being such as I have described, I regret to state that I think adult criminals at present are only likely to be deterred from persisting in the commisssion of crime by the fear of positive bodily suffering. It is lamentable that after the lapse of so many years since the abolition of slavery recourse should be had to a punishment deemed only fit for slaves; but it appears to me an actual necessity at present exists for the adoption of such a punishment, and I think the infliction of corporal punishment by order of the circuit judges in cases of second and subsequent convictions for larceny and certain other offences (as provided by an Act of last session) would eventually, if not speedily, occasion a great diminution in the number of those offences. For the younger portions of criminals I would suggest the institution in convenient situations of reformatory schools in different parts of the Island, where the inmates might be instructed in their moral and religious duties, and acquire habits of regularity and industry.

10. By these means I think much may be effected during the present generation; but I fear no real and permanent improvement can be looked for until the mass of the people have been taught habits of industry; to understand that labour, so far from being degrading, is ennobling; that every individual should in the exereise of an honest ambition strive to improve his condition and rise in the social scale, that the rights and property should be held sacred; and that the criminal who preys upon the honest acquisitions of others should incur not only the punishment of the law, but infamy and disgrace in the eyes of his fellow subjects. Such a moral and social change in the feelings of the people can only be gradually effected by a judicious system of education. It can hardly be expected in the present generation.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency the Governor. (Signed) EDWARD KEMBLE, J.

Encl. 2 in No. 39.

Enclosure 2 in No. 39.

Mr. Justice KER to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Spanish Town, June 7, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to mention, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that it was only yesterday afternoon that I was made aware of any communication having been addressed to the judges on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter.

I shall take the liberty of making a few remarks on the topics embraced in that letter at an early date.

I have, &c.

Honourable Hugh W. Austin, &c. &c. (Signed) ALAN KER, J.

Encl. 3 in No. 39.

Enclosure 3 in No. 39.

Mr. Justice KER to the GOVERNOR.

SIR, Spanish Town, June 10, 1865.

I HAVE already explained the cause of the delay in answering your Excellency's communication on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter.

2. There can be no reasonable doubt that distress is prevalent at the present moment; there can be as little doubt that larceny, and especially petty larceny, prevails to an extent which renders property of more than one species wholly insecure. The question is who is to blame for this? as blame must indisputably attach somewhere upon this subject, I would remark.

3. With regard to the distress,—that I have never entertained the smallest doubt that the indigence from which a portion of the labouring class have been suffering for some time past is mainly to be attributed to the sufferers themselves. Here and there aged and infirm persons may be fair objects of compassion; but with respect to the able-bodied labourer, I regard the present state of things as only the natural consequence of the vagrant unsettled habits, want of steady industry, want of providence and frugality, of which I cannot acquit a large portion of our population. It is too much the case with the negro, that money is an object with him, not as a stepping stone to competence and independence, but merely as the means of present enjoyment and gratification. When he has realised sufficient for this purpose, he is apt to consider further exertion to be unnecessary. The thought of the future never enters into his calculations. The wages of domestic service are low in Jamaica; but nothing is better known than that high wages do not secure lasting service, or bind the receiver to your employment. As soon as he has accumulated a little money, the connexion is almost invariably terminated (sometimes in an incredably short time) by the servant. I have known numerous instances in which the offer of wages nearly double the market rate has not induced even favourable specimens of the class to forego their practice of claiming Saturday as a holiday. In my own experience, till I indentured a coolie, high wages and light work did not save me from the worry and annoyance of having to look out for a new groom or butler about once a quarter. It is superfluous to remark, that when a reverse comes persons of these habits are neither morally nor economically prepared to meet the emergency.

4. Such a reverse has recently occurred in the low price of sugar for some time past, and in the drought from which we are still suffering. Of course the low price of sugar prevents the planters from paying the wages of better times. But when I consider the boundless resources of this Island, the practically unlimited supply of waste land, the cheapness of the means of subsistence, the few wants of the labourer, and lastly (though upon this I will observe more fully presently) the comparative lightness of taxation, I must consider it as a moral stigma upon the emancipated population of Jamaica that the reverse has fallen with such severity upon their class.

5. It is said that the planters are jealous of the small freeholders, looking with a grudging eye upon the independence which they acquire; and undoubtedly there is a portion of truth in this statement. But the prejudices of the planter are of very little consequence, if practically he cannot give effect to them; and that this is the case in all but the few districts now devoted to cane cultivation is known to all candid persons; and even in these, if the jealousy of the planter prevents the labourer from acquiring land, all that the labourer has to do is to remove elsewhere. If an English workman cannot make good his footing in one part of the country, he transfers his energies to another. There is not a spot in the whole Island which is any considerable distance from abundance of waste land. In some districts this land is reckoned by the thousands upon thousands of acres. In the entire world I do not believe that industry and enterprise are surer of their reward than in Jamaica, so far as the labouring population are concerned.

6. I have repeatedly maintained in conversation, and it is my deliberate opinion, that throughout this Island the labourer may by the exertion of a very moderate amount of industry (and about a third of what would be necessary in England) attain to competency, and even to wealth for his station. If he is now in want I must regard it as his own fault.

With regard to the present deplorable prevalence of offences against property, what is the cause of this lamentable phenomenon has occupied a great deal of attention of late. Dr. Underhill asserts that poverty is the cause, and that if this were removed matters would immediately return to a healthier moral state. I am compelled to state that I cannot consider this as a satisfactory explanation. Undoubtedly there are cases of theft proceeding from want; but it has been remarked over and over again, and is in conformity with my own experience as a criminal judge, that persons convicted of larceny are as a rule not persons in indigent circumstances. It frequently, very frequently, happens that they are exceedingly well off. It is to be remarked, further, that the phenomenon under observation is by no means of recent appearance among us, the consequence of low prices and unfavourable harvests, but has been steadily growing for some time past. My connexion with Jamaica dates from only five years back, but about the time of my arrival here the complaint was almost universal of the insecurity of certain kinds of property. As it is right and called for that I should express whatever judgment I may have formed upon the subject, I may observe that I attribute the existing prevalence of larceny to the same cause as the existing prevalence of poverty, namely, the vagrant inconstant habits, love of present ease and gratification, and impatience of all restraint and control, which I have stated as being so marked a feature in the character of a large portion of our population. And I have never doubted that these are in part at least to be attributed to the great defect of the Emancipation Act, through neglect to take effective security for the industry of the manumitted class. It has constanlty struck me that the negro expected more from emancipation than it was in the nature of things to grant, and that the discovery of his mistake has acted unfavourably upon his moral nature.

7. But I also attribute the present prevalence of theft to the wretched domestic training to which the children of the labouring class are subjected from their earliest years. It is a mere system of licence and non-restraint. So much is this the case that even education itself is not an unmixed blessing to many of those who receive it. There is also a dissatisfaction with their condition, a contempt for regular labour, and a determination to please themselves in many of the labouring youth, which cannot possibly come to any good.

8. Dr. Underhill complains of the weight of taxation, and of the inadequate representation of the black population in the House of Assembly. With regard to the latter complaint it has long been my opinion that the interests of the labouring class are not sufficiently cared for in the popular branch of the Legislature. Latterly the negroes themselves are becoming aware of it. But when the remedy proposed is the admission of the excluded class to a larger share of political power, I am bound to state that in my opinion nothing but disaster would follow such a change. The actual negro of of Jamaica is utterly unfit for the exercise of electoral privileges. To grant him the franchise would

JAMAICA.

only tend to his demoralization, from the obvious use that he would make of his right of voting, that of selling its exercise to the highest bidder.

9. I have said that the House of Assembly does not in my opinion always remember its duties to the great body of the population. Our present taxation, therefore, though I cannot consider it as excessive or anything approaching to it, regard being had to the imports of European countries, is, I think, heavier than there is any just occasion for. I cannot see either the expediency or necessity of many of the items which annually find their way into the Appropriation Act. But assuming to criticise our expenditure in the gross I am called upon to indicate faulty particulars in the detail. In the following particulars I think retrenchment called for:

(1.) The present ecclesiastical establishment is out of all proportion to the actual resources of the Colony and to the other subjects of expenditure. I think a reduction should take place at the first opportunity.

(2.) The official staff attached to the legislative bodies is wholly unsuited to the present depressed circumstances of the Island, and is not required.

(3.) The four judges might without any loss and even with positive gain to the administration of justice be reduced to three.

(4.) The Court of Chancery maintains at a cost to the public of 600*l.* per annum a perfectly useless officer called its registrar.

(5.) Three hundred pounds are annually granted for the publishing of the debates.

Besides numerous others too long to mention.

10. Dr. Underhill also brings it as a charge against the legislative bodies that they have refused to establish just tribunals throughout the land. It is not clear what particular act or default of the Legislature Dr. Underhill is referring to in this accusation; but if he means that the law is in a most unsatisfactory state at present, and that the poor suffer from its defects as well as the rich, he has advanced that which cannot be easily controverted. Your Excellency will bear me out that I have never made any concealment of the views which I entertain upon this subject. I have never concealed that in my opinion the actual state of the law in Jamaica was dilatory, costly, and unsatisfactory, wholly unsuited to a mercantile community. Until it is amended one of the greatest obstacles to the prosperity of Jamaica will remain in full force.

11. I am not aware of anything else in Dr. Underhill's letter demanding observation at my hands, but I willingly contribute this trifle to the discussion of its contents.

I have, &c.

His Excellency
Edward John Eyre, Esquire,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) ALAN KER, J.

No. 40.

No. 40.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 256.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 31, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 149,* of 20th June, forwarding reports from Mr. Justice Kemble and Mr. Justice Ker on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter.

* Page 216.

I shall be glad if you will consider and report to me whether the reduction could be effected of the office of Registrar of Chancery and of one of the four judges, as recommended by Judge Alan Ker; and I should wish Mr. Ker to indicate more specifically the nature of the law reforms which he considers necessary.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 41.

No. 41.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 151.) King's House, June 21, 1865.

SIR, (Received, July 14, 1865.)

† Page 208. Mr. Hollingsworth to Mr. Austin, 20 June 1865.

REFERRING to my Despatch No. 142,† of 6th instant, transmitting certain resolutions which had been forwarded to me for the purpose, purporting to have been passed at a public meeting held at Mandeville in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter, I have now the honour to transmit copy of a letter from the Custos of the parish, stating that there was no public meeting at all, and that whatever took place must have been of a private nature.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure in No. 41.

Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH to Mr. AUSTIN.

Encl. in No. 41.

SIR, Brumalia, June 20, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 16th instant, No. 1,025, transmitting copy of certain resolutions said to have been passed at a meeting held at Porus and Mandeville with respect to Dr. Underhill's representations on the state of the Colony.

In reply, I have the honour to state to you, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that I have never known of any such meeting as is referred to. There certainly has never been any public meeting at Mandeville to my knowledge. I am willing that a question of this importance should be publicly canvassed, but no application has ever been made to me for the use of the Court-house, and all other meetings must of necessity be of a private nature.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN R. HOLLINGSWORTH,
Custos of Manchester.

The Honourable Hugh W. Austin,
&. &c. &c.

No. 42.

No. 42.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 164.) King's House, June 27, 1865.

SIR, (Received, July 29, 1865.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit a report by the members of the American Mission in this Colony in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. The Members of the American Mission to Mr. Austin, 16 June 1865.

The members of the American Mission do not coincide in opinion with Dr. Underhill, except to a very limited extent.

I have, &c.

The Right. Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 42.

Encl. in No. 42.

The AMERICAN MISSION to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Richmond, Metcalfe, June 16, 1865.

IN reply to your circular of 13th March, accompanying a printed copy of Dr. Underhill's letter, we the undersigned members of the American Mission beg leave to submit the following answers to the queries therein contained:—

1. Are the statements of Dr. Underhill's letter applicable to the labouring classes of the districts in which the Ministers of your denomination labour?

We believe they are true in a few particulars only.

2. Has the ordinary rate of wages for a day's work varied much in those districts during the last few years?

It has not. The daily pay of labourers' now ranges from sixpence to one shilling and sixpence, according to age and efficiency in labouring.

3. Have the prices of ground provisions risen greatly within the same period?

They have not risen at all.

4. Is work less easily obtained or less remunerated than in former years?

Much the same as it has been for the last 10 years.

5. Are the peasantry less well off, or less decently clad, now, than heretofore?

They are to some extent, chiefly owing to the increased price of imported provisions and of cotton fabrics, together with the unusually severe droughts of the last two years.

6. What are the causes of any distress which may exist?

We are not aware of the existence of any unusual distress, more than that stated in the answer to query fifth above.

7. What is the cause of the great increase of the crime of petty larceny?

Ignorance and degradation, arising from want of proper educational influences in school and at home, aggravated by the causes stated in the answer to query fifth.

One great remedy for this crying evil is a good supply of proper schools.

(Signed) SETH T. WOLCOTT.
THORNTON B. PENFIELD.
F. J. DOUGLASS.
C. B. VENNING.
JOSEPH S. FISHER.

Jamaica.

No. 43.

No. 43.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Eyre to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 167.) King's House, July 5, 1865.

Sir, (Received, July 29, 1865.)

In connexion with the various communications which it has been my duty to transmit to you, owing their origin to Dr. Underhill's letter, I have now the honour to forward a petition which has been addressed to me by certain African labourers in the parish of Vere.

2. Upon making inquiry, I find that the statements are very incorrect, and that some of the signatures have been attached without the knowledge or consent of the persons named.

3. This document, and the information attached giving the true rate of wages earned, will show how very untrustworthy any documents are purporting to be a spontaneous emanation from the peasantry, but in reality got up by designing persons to serve their own purposes.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M. P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. in No. 43.

Enclosure in No. 43.

Wm. Wright and others to Governor Eyre.

To his Excellency Edward J. Eyre, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

The humble petition of us the undersigned African labourers residing in the parish of Vere,

Showeth,—

That we are in great distress and poverty on account of not getting sufficient work to do so as to enable us to maintain our families. Some of our children were at school. We are compelled to take them away, as we cannot afford to purchase clothes to send them there. Some of us are members in the Church, and cannot attend the worship of God for want of clothing for our self and family, and we are in a state of starvation and difficulty. Some of us are sick, and are perishing for want and assistance. As we are unable to help ourselves, we cannot render the least assistance to them. Some of us has taxable properties, and have not the means of paying the taxes this year, therefore will have to suffer the loss of our property. The estates give us a little work, but what we earn weekly cannot purchase sufficient food to suffice us for the week, as what work they give us to perform for a sixpence is worth two shillings, and sometimes we labour for nothing; for when Friday comes, which is our pay day, there will sure to be some fault or the other found with the work, and then our pay is stopped, and we are obliged to go starving until the next Friday, when, perhaps, if we are fortunate enough to get work somewhere else, through which means many are compelled to go and steal canes, &c. &c, thus causing the workhouses and Penitentiary to be so filled with convicts. The estates' crop are over now, and in crop times are the only time work is plenty, and things flourish in this parish; but from the severe dry weather from last year has put the parish to a great deal of distress, with the poorer class of people, Our wages on some estate this crop is from three to four shillings per week, which cannot maintain a man and his family for the week; and as the crop is over, and if the seasons do not attend, we will not be able to get any work at all to do on the estates; and we must be compelled to go starving and be naked. In this parish we are obliged to purchase yams, cocos, and plantains, &c. from Manchester and Clarendon, as these food do not thrive in the parish; and when we are unable to purchase them, we have to go to the heavy expence to purchase rice, flour, or meal, besides salt provisions; these articles of food being so very dear in the parish, and in some shops they have half quarts or what is called seven gills. Some make flour into dough, and put inside the quart pots at the bottom. Some put paper into their quart pots. These tricks are done to enable them to make a large profit on their goods, but cheat us off our labours. These great evils we must ask your Excellency to adopt some means to inspect these weights and measures, so as to prevent this fraud which is carried on all over the Island. The price of cloth for the last two years has been very high; more so in this parish. Everything is scarce and dear, thus causing the great want of clothing.

The large quantity of coolies located on the several estates has caused us to go about wandering for work, for out of crop what little there is to serve us is obliged to be given to them, and we must go and try for ourselves, and make it out the best way we can.

We, the undersigned African labourers, are now seventeen years in this Island, and are thoroughly acquainted with the affairs of the country, and find that Jamaica is getting worse and worse, and being foreigners, we must beg that his Excellency will take our distressed case into consideration, and lay this our grievous complaint before the Honble. House of Assembly, or before the proper place that his Excellency might consider best. We being unacquainted with where to place this our petition, has thought fit to address same to his Excellency, and await the reply of his Excellency; if by post,

address to William Wright and others, (African) Alley, P.O., Vere, and on account of ourselves and family we your humble petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Signed)	William Wright	wife	and 4	children.
	John Thomas	„	„ 4	„
	James Williams	„	„ 4	„
	D. Birmingham	„	„ 3	„
	George Williams	„	„ 4	„
	J. Shepheard	„	„ 4	„
	Jas. Harrisson	„	„ 2	„
	Richd. Russell	„	„ 1	„
	Frs. Osborne	„	„ 3	„
	Chas. Wright	„	„ 5	„
	H. Highman	housekeeper	„ 4	„
	Thos. Godson	„	„ 3	„
	Samuel Trench	„	„ 3	„
	Geo. Williams	„	„ 3	„
	Thomas Williams	„	„ 1	„
	James Baldwin	„	„ 3	„
	Thomas Jones	„	„ 2	„
	James Fuller	„	„ 1	„
	Samuel Dudley	alone.		
	Peter Taylor	housekeeper	„ 4	„
	Edward Godson	„	„ 1	„
	William Dollar	alone	„ 5	„
	William Roberts	housekeeper	„ 4	„
	Edwd. Matthews	„	„ 2	„
	Robt. Callaghan	alone.		
	Alexander Ellis	housekeeper.		
	Joseph White	„	„ 2	„
	Henry Wyse	„		
	Richard Godson	alone.		
	George C. Wright	„		
	John Dudley.	William Walters.		
	William Chambers.	Robert Dick.		
	Joseph Ellby.	James Davis.		
	George Robinson and housekeeper.			

Mr. MacKinnon to Mr. Austin.

Old Harbour, P.O., June 30, 1865.

Sir,

I now return the petition which the Africans in Vere addressed to his Excellency the Governor with such information as I have been able to get as to the complaints contained in it.

This information is in the shape of—

No. 1.—A statement of Mr. Shaw.
„ 2.—A statement of Mr. Garriques.
„ 3.—An abstract of the books of Yarmouth estate, showing the wages earned, with remarks.
„ 4.—The same from Carlisle estate.

I believe that these documents will prove to his Excellency that the Africans in Vere are not worse off than their neighbours. All classes are now suffering severely from prolonged drought, and it no doubt tells heavily upon those who rarely work for more than their immediate wants require.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Louis Mackinnon,
Custos of Vere.

The Honourable H. W. Austin.

Mr. Shaw's Statement.

The Africans.

Mr. T. P. Williams states, William Wright worked in his still-house at Gibbons during crop, and earned an average of 8*s.* per week.

Thomas Godson, an African, states, He has been working at Carlisle estate all the crop. Has since been sick for four weeks. Last week worked at Amity Hall at day labour, and received 1*s.* a day. Is working there this week cleaning canes, four rows for a shilling; finished four rows to-day before twelve o'clock. Has a house and land at Baldwin's Cottage, and three head of horse kind. Does not know who wrote the paper to the Governor. Nobody ever read it to him. He was sick when William Wright came to him, and said he was going to get somebody to write paper to the Governor, and he Godson gave 6*d.* towards it.

Alexander Ellis, African, states, Last week William Wright came to him. He said all his countrymen must give him 6*d.* He did not say what he was going to do with it. He Ellis gave him 6*d.* Never knew anything of the paper to the Governor till now.

Henry Hyman states, He works chiefly at Carlisle estate. Lives at Baldwin's Cottage since crop. He worked at Carlisle digging check holes by the hundred. Worked till twelve o'clock and got 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* a week for his work. Thinks he ought to get more, and that the paper to the Governor would

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get him more, but if paper said he could not get work it was a lie. He was never out of work. This man is now working for me digging cassada hills at 9*d.* per 100. He works till about 11 30 a.m., earns 9*d.* and will not do more.

The above statements were taken this day and Wednesday the week before last. Since then Henry Hyman has left my work. I believe the Africans are unwilling to give any further information for fear of compromising somehow or other William Wright.

I understand the petition is in the handwriting of a man named Alexander McClymont, an engine-driver out of berth, who does small writing jobs for any remuneration he can get.

Vere, June 24, 1865. GILBERT SHAW.

Mr. GARRIQUES to Mr. SHAW.

My dear Sir, Yarmouth, June 12, 1865.

Having observed the names of some Africans employed here attached to the petition sent to his Excellency the Governor, and which I understood had been transmitted to the custos for information, I enclose a list of those employed here, with the wages paid, &c.

I cannot for a moment reconcile as fact that the document was prepared at the instance of the Africans themselves, but incline to the opinion that it has been the production of some designing person or persons, with the view of bolstering up Dr. Underhill's statements.

No doubt distress has been visited upon every one in the parish, but that the parties to the petition have been alone the sufferers is not founded in fact, for the effects of the long drought have been productive of evil to all classes. I have heard that complaints have been made against the retailers for giving short weight, &c., and if this be the fact investigation ought to take place, and the parties to the petition compelled to substantiate the charges, or to give those said to be implicated in those nefarious transactions an opportunity of clearing themselves. At all events, an inspector of weights and measures ought to be appointed as a safeguard.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) H. L. GARRIQUES.

AFRICANS employed on Yarmouth Estate, Vere, in 1865.

NAME.	JANUARY.			JANUARY & FEBRUARY.				FEBRUARY & MARCH.					APRIL.				MAY & JUNE.					JUNE.
	9th to 14th.	16th to 21st.	23d to 28th.	30th to 4th.	6th to 11th.	13th to 18th.	20th to 25th.	27th to 4th.	6th to 11th.	13th to 18th.	20th to 25th.	27th to 31st.	3d to 8th.	10th to 15th.	17th to 22d.	24th to 29th.	1st to 6th.	8th to 13th.	15th to 20th.	22d to 27th.	29th to 3d.	5th to 10th.
*George Williams -	—	*s. d.* 4 4½	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 5 3	*s. d.* 4 4½	abt.	*s. d.* 4 6	*s. d.* 4 9	abt.	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 3 6	abt.	*s. d.* 4 0	debt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	*s. d.* 1 0	abt.	abt.	*s. d.* 4 0	*s. d.* 4 4½
Number of Days -	—	5	5	5	5	—	4	5	—	3	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	5
Eliza Williams -	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 0	*s. d.* 2 3	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 3 6	*s. d.* 3 6	*s. d.* 1 6	abt.	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 3 3	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.
Number of Days -	5	5	3	4	5	5	2	abt.	5	5	5	5	5	5	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.	abt.
Robert Williams -	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 3 3	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 3	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 3	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 2 3	*s. d.* 2 7½	abt.	abt.	*s. d.* 2 0	*s. d.* 1 6	*s. d.* 2 6	a.	*s. d.* 2 3	a.	*s. d.* 1 7½
Number of Days -	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	—	—	4	3	5	—	5	—	3
†William Dollar -	a.	a.	*s. d.* 3 6	Discharged for misconduct and working elsewhere.											a.	*s. d.* 4 4½	*s. d.* 4 10½	*s. d.* 4 0	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 5 0
Number of Days -	—	—	3													4	5	4	5	5	5	5
‡Samuel Trench -	*s. d.* 2 9	*s. d.* 4 0	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 6 3	*s. d.* 6 0	*s. d.* 6 0	*s. d.* 6 0	*s. d.* 7 0	*s. d.* 7 0	*s. d.* 7 0	*s. d.* 6 0	*s. d.* 5 0	*s. d.* 5 9	*s. d.* 5 3	*s. d.* 3 9	*s. d.* 4 6	*s. d.* 4 6	*s. d.* 4 0	a.	*s. d.* 3 9	*s. d.* 2 6	*s. d.* 2 6
Number of Days -	3	4	5	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	5	5	6	6	4	4	4	4	—	3	3	3

REMARKS.

* Man and wife, and son, about two years old; employed for some years; possessed of house and land, with a breeding mare, pigs, &c. (mare said to be dead); absence of wife, arising, it is supposed, from enceinte. When the man was absent it was presumed he had, to attend to his own plantation; not industrious.
† Lost his wife this year; has four children; possessed of house and land; had a brood mare; has pigs, &c.; employed for some years.
‡ A single man, but living with a female; has house and land, with a brood mare, pigs, &c.; employed for some years.
The adults above-named came here some years ago, after performing their term of servitude at Carlisle estate, with three others, viz., Wm. Wright, Joseph McLean, and Joseph Bermingham; this latter left after being married. Joseph McLean (a lazy fellow) left in my debt about four years ago. Wm. Wright, discharged the end of last year, in consequence of insulting conduct to the book-keeper. George Williams and Dollar appear to have been misled by some designing person or persons, and had their names affixed to the petition sent to the Governor. Samuel Trench was not aware of the petition, and to use his own words, says "his countrymen must have borrowed his name," and it is therefore likely other names have been made use of for a similar pprpose.

Yarmouth, June 12, 1865. (Signed) H. L. GARRIQUES.

Extract of African Labour on Carlisle Estate, Vere, Jamaica.

Names.	January.								February.							
	Week ending Friday 6th.		Week ending Friday 13th.		Week ending Friday 20th.		Week ending Friday 27th.		Week ending Friday 3d.		Week ending Friday 10th.		Week ending Friday 17th.		Week ending Friday 24th.	
	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
John Sheppard	5	5 0	—	—	4	4 0	3	2 9	3	3 6	—	—	5	5 10½	—	—
James Harrison	5	5 0	—	—	4	4 6	3	4 1½	3	3 6	3	5 7½	4	4 4½	4	7 0
John Thomas	5	5 0	4	4 0	4	4 6	5	5 1½	4	4 6	—	—	4	4 3	4	3 3
Richard Russell	5	5 0	—	—	—	—	3	4 1½	3	3 6	3	5 7½	4	4 7½	4	7 0
Francis Osborne	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3 0	6	6 0	6	6 0	4	7 0
Charles Wright	3	3 0	3	2 6	3	2 6	—	—	3	3 1½	5	3 9	—	—	4	4 0
Henry Hyman	3	3 0	—	—	5	5 0	3	4 1½	3	3 6	3	5 7½	6	6 0	4	7 0
Thomas Godson	3	3 0	4	3 9	4	4 0	2	2 6	3	3 9	6	6 0	6	6 0	5	5 0
Thomas Jones	—	—	2	2 0	—	—	3	4 1½	3	4 7½	3	5 7½	4	4 0	4	7 0
William Roberts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Robert Callaghan	—	—	—	—	4	3 9	2	3 0	3	5 6	3	2 0	4	7 4½	—	—
Alexander Ellis	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3 0	3	5 6	1	1 0	4	7 4½	2	2 0
John Dudley	3	3 6	2	2 3	5	5 0	3	2 6	3	3 0	3	3 0	3	3 6	3	3 6
William Chambers	3	3 6	3	2 6	3	2 6	5	5 1½	4	4 3	3	3 0	5	5 0	5	5 0

Names.	March.										April.							
	Week ending March 3d.		Week ending March 10th.		Week ending March 17th.		Week ending March 24th.		Week ending March 31st.		Week ending April 7th.		Week ending April 14th.		Week ending April 21st.		Week ending April 28th.	
	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
John Sheppard	4	4 0	4	4 3	4	4 9	5	4 6	—	—	5	4 6	—	—	—	—	—	—
James Harrison	—	—	4	7 10½	—	—	4	7 0	4	3 3	4	7 7½	5	4 0	—	—	—	—
John Thomas	4	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Richard Russell	—	—	4	7 10½	—	—	4	7 0	—	—	4	7 7½	—	—	—	—	—	—
Francis Osborne	6	7 6	6	6 6	6	7 0	6	7 6	6	8 6	6	6 0	6	6 0	4	4 0	3	3 0
Charles Wright	4	4 0	4	4 3	5	3 9	—	2 7½	3	2 6	4	3 0	—	—	—	—	5	4 0
Henry Hyman	4	4 0	4	7 10½	5	4 3	4	7 0	5	4 3	4	7 7½	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thomas Godson	4	4 6	4	3 6	5	4 3	5	5 9	4	4 6	5	4 9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thomas Jones	4	3 6	4	7 10½	5	3 9	—	7 0	—	—	4	7 7½	—	—	—	—	—	—
William Roberts	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5 0	—	—	5	4 6	3	3 9	—	—	5	5 0
Robert Callaghan	4	7 9	—	—	4	9 3	—	—	4	7 3	—	—	3	4 9	—	—	3	4 6
Alexander Elliss	4	7 9	4	4 3	4	9 3	—	—	4	7 3	5	4 6	3	4 9	—	—	3	4 6
John Dudley	4	3 6	4	3 6	4	4 6	4	3 6	4	3 6	4	3 6	—	—	—	—	2	2 0
William Chambers	4	4 0	4	4 0	4	3 6	5	3 3	4	3 9	5	5 1½	4	3 3	—	—	3	2 6

Names.	May.								Total No. of days working.	Total Amount earned by each.	Average wages per diem.	Remarks.
	Week ending May 5th.		Week ending May 12th.		Week ending May 19th.		Week ending May 26th.					
	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.	No. of days working.	Amount earned.				
		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
John Sheppard	5	6 3	5	4 0	4	3 6	—	—	56	2 16 10½	0 1 0	Distiller, discharged from it for stealing a pail of rum. Field-work afterwards.
James Harrison	5	6 3	5	4 0	4	3 6	4	3 3	65	4 0 10½	0 1 4½	Chiefly employed at the mill house, but never over 7 hours during crop.
John Thomas	3	3 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	2 5 7½	0 1 1½	About 60 years of age, variously employed in fields and on fences.
Richard Russell	—	—	—	—	4	3 6	—	—	38	2 15 10½	0 1 3½	Chiefly at mill house, but very irregular in turning out and very lazy.
Francis Osborne	—	—	5	4 3	3	4 0	5	4 9	81	4 11 0	0 1 1½	A good workman, variously employed.
Charles Wright	4	3 3	5	4 0	—	—	—	—	55	2 10 3	0 0 11	A lunatic, who only does a little work by fits and starts.
Henry Hyman	3	2 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	3 11 9	0 1 3¼	Chiefly employed about the works and in the fields.
Thomas Godson	4	4 6	5	4 3	4	3 6	4	3 6	77	3 17 0	0 1 0	About the distillery, but a sickly man, but steady, and owns 3 head horsekind.
Thomas Jones	5	6 3	5	4 0	4	3 6	4	3 3	54	3 14 1½	0 1 4½	About works, both still and mill houses, and also cane-field.
William Roberts	5	5 3	5	4 0	—	—	—	—	27	1 7 6	0 1 0	An elderly man, chiefly on fences and other light work.
Robert Callaghan	—	—	2	3 7½	4	3 6	—	—	40	3 2 3	0 1 6½	At mill house and in the cane-fields; now in the Penitentiary.
Alexander Ellis	3	3 0	2	2 7½	—	—	—	—	44	3 6 9	0 1 6	At mill house and in the cane-fields, and at various works.
John Dudley	—	—	1	1 0	—	—	—	—	52	2 11 3	0 1 0	Chiefly on crop, potting sugar; and out of crop, variously employed.
William Chambers	—	—	—	—	4	3 0	4	3 0	72	3 6 3	0 0 11	An old man, who pulls withs and ties fences, and sometimes does a little field work.
Total aggregate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	758	43 17 4½	1 13 4	With the exception of Jno. Dudley, who is unsteady in his habits, all are freeholders, and married most of them.

N.B.—758 days is the aggregate number of days out to work, but it is to be borne in mind those at an average of 1s. per day never work over 5 hours: then above 1s. never over 7 hours on any day.

True Extract from Pay Book, showing monies paid to above people on Carlisle Estate.

(Signed) C. W. Claydon,
Book-keeper.

NAME.	NOVEMBER.			DECEMBER.			REMARKS.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Jno. Sheppard	3 9	4 10½	6 9	6 9	6 0	3 0	
Jno. Thomas	5 0	3 9	—	—	5 0	—	
Willm. Chambers	—	—	5 3	—	2 6	—	
Jno. Dudley	4 0	—	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	The amounts here set down are payments for cutting wood per cord at 9d.; these labourers are limited to 2 cords per day, which are cut and measured by 1 o'clock P.M. Other amounts are for repairing fences, pumping water for stock, procuring withs, &c. &c. for fences.
Fras. Osborne	—	5 3	5 3	7 6	4 6	1 6	
Henry Hynam	—	6 0	—	7 6	7 6	4 6	
James Harrison	—	4 10½	—	—	4 3	3 9	
Thomas Godson	—	—	—	6 0	7 6	6 0	
Thomas Jones	—	—	—	5 3	3 0	3 9	
Charles Wright	—	—	—	—	2 0	—	
Alex. Ellis	—	—	—	—	4 3	3 9	
Richard Russell	—	—	—	—	4 3	2 3	

These people, as it will be seen, worked very irregularly at wood cutting; but it appears they made as much as 6s., 6s. 9d., and 7s. 6d. when they chose to cut 2 cords daily, which they usually accomplished by mid-day.

No. 44.

No. 44.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. Edward CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 169.) King's House, July 6, 1865.

(Received, July 29, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 264, August 4, 1865, page 226).

* Page 139. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 222 * of 14th June, conveying the reply of Her Majesty to the petition of certain poor people of St. Ann's.

This reply has been duly communicated to the petitioners.

2. Considering the agitation which has recently been got up in reference to the alleged starving state of the people of this Colony, and in view of the very injurious impressions as to the amount of aid and assistance to be offered them from home which have been instilled into their minds by designing persons, I have thought it would be a great public advantage to make generally known the very just sentiments expressed and the excellent advice given in the reply referred to.

I have therefore directed the Queen's reply to be published in the "Government Gazette" and in the local newspapers, and I do not doubt but that it will have a very beneficial effect in allaying the irritation and correcting the misrepresentations which have originated from Dr. Underhill's letter.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 45.

No. 45.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 264.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 4, 1865.

† Page 226. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 169† of 6th July, stating that you had published in the "Government Gazette" and in the local newspapers the reply which I was commanded by Her Majesty to make to the petition of certain poor

‡ Page 135. people of St. Ann's, which was forwarded in your Despatch No. 117‡ of 25th April.

I approve of the publication of the reply.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.
&c. &c.

No. 46.

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Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

Mr. Lindo to Mr. Austin, 8th July 1865.

No. 46. Resolutions.

(No. 172.) King's House, July 10, 1865.

SIR, (Received, August 14, 1865.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit certain resolutions forwarded to me for the purpose passed at a public meeting in St. Mary's emanating in Dr. Underhill's letter.

I also forward a report by the Custos of the parish.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 46.

Encl. 1 in No. 46.

RESOLUTIONS passed at Public Meeting in St. Mary's.

At a public meeting held at the Court-house, Manning's Town, in the parish of St. Mary, on the 21st day of June 1865, by the permission of His Honour the Custos, "to enable the parishioners to take "into consideration the propriety of Dr. Underhill's letter to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, "and to express their opinion thereon," the following resolutions were agreed to:—

1. Moved by the Rev. John Simpson, and seconded by the Rev. Thomas Smith,
"That this meeting do pray that Her Majesty's Government will make a searching inquiry as to "the cause of the present deplorable state of our Island, this meeting being of opinion that it "is owing chiefly to the want of capital; want of employment by at least one half of the "labouring population; and the unequal competition of slave-grown sugar in the British "market."

2. Moved by Mr. Thomas Wright, and seconded by Mr. W. L. Thompson,
"That this meeting do seriously feel for the distressed state of the mechanics of this country, who "are suffering from the injustice done to them by the Legislature having imposed the same "import duty of 12½ per cent. on the raw materials as on the manufactured articles imported "into the Island, not only from the Mother Country but also from the United States, thus "paralysing the hands of industry of both sexes."

3. Moved by Mr. E. Coore, and seconded by Mr. R. Palmer,
"That in consequence of the abandonment of twenty-nine of our once flourishing estates in "Saint Mary, our labouring class here are daily merging into a state of nudity, from work being "less obtainable, and those who get employment being obliged to accept wages far below the "value of their labour."

4. Moved by Mr. J. Uter, and seconded by Mr. C. McLaren,
"That this meeting do deplore the present low prices paid as wages to the labourers, which renders "them incapable to maintain, much less to educate, their children, together with the high import "duty imposed upon articles of wearing apparel and food, added to their inability to "obtain employment generally, and the exceeding low rates of wages paid, and that so "tardily."

5. Moved by Mr. M. Paisley, and seconded by Mr. R. Hodgson,
"That in reference to the letter addressed to the Colonial Secretary of State by Mr. Underhill, "which is now made public through our Island press, we, Her Majesty's loyal subjects in this "her Western Archipelago, assembled this day, record our grateful thanks to Mr. Underhill "for the sympathy he has evinced towards the population of this Island."

6. Moved by Mr. A. Brown, and seconded by Mr. T. Taylor,
"That a copy of the foregoing resolutions, signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, be "forwarded to his Excellency the Governor, with a request that he will lay the same before the "Honourable E. Cardwell, Secretary for the Colonies."

7. Moved by the Rev. T. Smith, and seconded by Mr. E. Ellis,
"That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Dr. Underhill; and that the said resolutions be "published once in all the Island newspapers."

(Signed) JOHN H. MOORE, Rector,
Chairman on behalf of the meeting, but dissenting entirely from the proceedings.

Enclosure 2 in No. 46.

Encl. 2 in No. 46.

Mr. LINDO to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, July 8, 1865.

BEFORE I did myself the honour to reply to the desire of his Excellency the Governor that I would report on the resolutions forwarded to his Excellency from a public meeting held in St. Mary, in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter, I thought it proper to make inquiry, as I was not in the parish.

As to the resolutions, I cannot myself, nor do I find any persons in the parish capable of judging, think that they are truthful. I do not hesitate to say that in St. Mary the working class or peasantry have nothing to complain of. "Want of employment" they should not complain of, for even now, if it is not to be found on estates, there is an abundance of excellent land that can be purchased very

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cheap, or rented so low as from 16*s.* to 20*s.* per acre per annum, with an acre of which no man or woman need want.

As to the character of the meeting, I am informed, with two or three exceptions, it entirely consisted of common tradespeople and labourers well dressed, and that for many years there has not been seen on the bay so many good horses as were ridden to the meeting by the peasantry, which it is remarked gave a very flat denial to either want of food or clothing. The number of these well-to-do people was very large on this occasion, but it is believed very few really knew the meaning of it.

I have, &c.

The Honourable Hugh W. Austin, Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) A. J. LINDO, Custos, St. Mary.

No. 47.

No. 47.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 174.)

King's House, July 12, 1865.

(Received, August 14, 1865.)

SIR,

(Answered, No. 299, October 3, 1865, page 232.)

Resolutions, Enclosure 1.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you certain resolutions (presented to me for the purpose) passed at a public meeting held in the parish of St. David's, emanating from Dr. Underhill's letter.

Mr. Georges to Mr. Austin, 10 July 1865. Enclosure 2.

I also enclose a report from the Custos of the parish to whom the resolutions were referred.

2. The resolutions are of the same general style and tenor as those forwarded in previous Despatches from the other parishes, but there is one of a highly objectionable character, (the 7th) being a personal attack upon the Custos.

3. It is right to mention that not having been furnished with a copy of the resolutions before they were presented, a printed copy was taken from the newspapers, and sent to Mr. Georges for his report, in order to save time.

Printed copy of Resolutions, Enclosure 3.

That printed copy (herewith enclosed) omitted altogether the 7th resolution, which will account for no notice having been taken of it in Mr. Georges' report.

I must also state, in reference to the complaint made as to the mal-administration of justice in the parish of St. David's, that the residents in that parish are singularly fortunate in having one of the few remaining stipendiary magistrates to dispense justice, the Honourable A. G. Fyfe, against whose decisions or impartiality I never heard one word of complaint from any one.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 47.

Enclosure 1 in No. 47.

RESOLUTIONS.

Saint David, June 26, 1865.

At a public meeting held at Easington Court-house on the 24th inst., agreeably to requisition to his honour the custos, for the purpose of expressing public sentiment regarding Dr. Underhill's letter, and the distress prevalent throughout the Island, Samuel Clarke, Esq., was called to the chair, and Mr. Jas. A. Hague appointed secretary.

The requisition convening the meeting was read; after which the chairman in a plain and forcible manner explained the object of the meeting. The vociferous enthusiasm of the assembled multitude plainly told their warm approbation of the chairman's remarks.

Letters from Messrs. S. C. Burke and Aaron Salom, Members of Assembly for this parish, and the Rev. S. R. Ward, were read, testifying to the distressed condition of the Island generally. After which the following resolutions were unanimously carried, after being ably supported by Messrs. Robt. Levy, W. T. Brands, Thos. Hardy, Thos. W. Nicholas, J. D. Clarke, John Grange, J. W. Menard, Geo. W. Brown, Benjamin Campbell, James Loague, Archibald Dick, Chas. Wilson, Robt. Stuart, Jas. McFarlane, Richard Garnet, Grant Brown, and Robt. Wiltshire.

Resolved 1st,

That this meeting, finding the condition of this parish becoming daily more depreciated, and the inhabitants in a state of unprecedented distress, feels constrained to express its apprehension of the present crisis, and will use every legitimate means to avert all the evil results which are likely to flow therefrom.

Resolved 2d,

That from seasons of droughts, scarcity of food, and absence of employment, combined with heavy taxation, the inhabitants of this parish have felt the pressure so severely that very many have had it in consideration of leaving the Island for other places more congenial and advantageous to personal comfort and domestic peace.

Resolved 3d.

That the labourers on the estates of this parish are not honestly and adequately paid for their labour; that great wrong and injury attend the small settlers in the destruction of their provision grounds by the unlawful and unrestricted freedom of large herds of cattle belonging to proprietors of

estates and penns, and that great inconvenience is experienced also from the bad and shameful condition of the roads in the mountain districts.

Resolved 4th,

That the island press (we mean the Guardian of slavery) has proven a most destructive and malicious barrier to everything that tends to improve the moral and intellectual status of the labouring classes; and that it is with manly contempt we see daily its dastardly and diabolical attempts to impugn the motive and long hidden facts of Dr. Underhill's letter.

Resolved 5th,

That apparently in our courts of justice favoritism is rampant; that there is a law for the rich and a law for the poor; that it is with serious apprehension we see year after year our self-interested law-makers creating new and useless offices, to be filled by hankering favourites, whose princely salaries come by increased taxation; and that political classification and monopoly, as carried on by the powers that be, especially in governmental affairs, have proven most dangerous and destructive barriers to that political freedom and equity which the British Constitution vouchsafes to all classes in all parts of the British dominions.

Resolved 6th,

That it is the opinion of this meeting that the establishment of an island agricultural loan bank or joint stock company for the small settlers and the commercial trading interest of this Island would to a great degree ameliorate the present retrograding condition of agriculture, and remove all those inconveniences which the want of capital has forced upon those who would engage in it.

Resolved 7th,

That this meeting views with alarm the course pursued by his Excellency the Governor in eliciting information from our Custos regarding the allegation contained in Dr. Underhill's letter; for it is generally believed that our custos is one of our bitterest enemies, as we can instance many of his malicious acts, such as breaking down of the negro houses, converting the same into fuel for his coppers, and breaking down of negro tombs, and planting canes through and through the graveyards, and in stopping the roads that lead to their provision grounds, &c.

Resolved 8th,

That a committee be appointed, to be designated "The Central Communicating Committee," whose business shall be to correspond with the yeomen throughout the Island on subjects of agriculture and other branches of native industry.

Resolved 9th,

That the foregoing resolutions be published in all the Island newspapers; that a copy of the same be forwarded to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, through his Excellency the Governor; and that one also be forwarded to Dr. Underhill, as a mark of gratitude for his timely interference.

Resolved 10th,

That this meeting do now give three cheers for Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen; and that the chairman appoint a suitable deputation to present these resolutions to his Excellency the Governor, to be by him forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The chairman appointed the following gentlemen as a deputation to present the resolutions to his Excellency the Governor:—Messrs. Samuel Clarke, Archibald Dick, Benjamin Campbell, Jas. A. Hague, Robert Levy, Abram Campbell, W. T. Brands, T. W. Nicholas, Alex. Miller, Thos. Hardy, Geo. W. Brown, Jas. F. Loague, J. D. Clarke, Edward Carr, Edw. McFarlane, John Grange, J. W. Menard, L. C. Burke, A. Salom, and Revs. Edwin Palmer and Samuel R. Ward.

And also the following gentlemen were appointed the communicating committee:—Revs. Samuel R. Ward, Jas. F. Roach, Edwin Palmer, and Messrs. Saml. Clarke, J. W. Menard, Robt. Levy, T W. Nicholas, Thos. Hardy, and Jas. A. Hague.

Resolved 11th,

That Mr. Robert Stuart, churchwarden, be called to the chair, to tender the thanks of the meeting to Samuel Clarke, Esquire, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the business of this meeting; and that the chairman and secretary sign the minutes on behalf of the meeting.

(Signed) SAMUEL CLARKE, Chairman.
JAS. A. HAGUE, Secretary.

Enclosure 2 in No. 47.

Encl. 2 in No 47.

Mr. GEORGES to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Fair Prospect, St. David's, July 10, 1865.

I BEG to acknowledge your letter of the 5th instant, No. 1,150. The meeting which took place at Easington on the 24th ultimo was convened at the request of Mr. Samuel Clarke and others, who delight in political excitement, and attended by their followers. The better disposed and industrious portion of the inhabitants and small freeholders were not present.

First. It cannot be denied that in consequence of the severe drought, and consequent partial failure of the provision crops, greater wants prevail than hitherto; but the extreme of this distress is nowhere seen except among the aged and infirm (who readily obtain parochial aid), and those who will not resort to work to obtain their living. No cry of poverty was heard until Mr. Underhill's letter appeared.

Second. Employment is always to be obtained by the industrious, and the cry of heavy taxation is merely got up by agitators to suit their own views. A few young men went to Navy Bay on promises held out to them, but very soon returned to the parish.

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Third. Although the remaining properties in cultivation have suffered materially from the drought and low prices of produce, yet wages are faithfully paid wherever fair work is given; and with regard to the destruction of provision fields by cattle, this is merely a political war cry; the owners of stock see the necessity of fencing so as to keep their cattle in, although the owners of small settlements will do nothing to protect their fields or to prevent strays; on the contrary, they sometimes encourage trespass, with a view to the pecuniary profit resulting from a claim to exorbitant compensation, in which they too frequently meet with undue encouragement.

Fifth. The courts of petty session are presided over by the stipendiary magistrate the Honourable A. G. Fyfe. I have never hitherto heard any complaints about favouritism, but I have always had reason to believe that the decisions pronounced in these courts have met with general satisfaction; were it otherwise the facility of appeal given by law ought to furnish evidence of that fact. The other portions of this resolution are merely got up to suit political purposes.

Sixth. The want of capital is certainly much felt, and would materially assist the small settlers, in common with all other classes. Mr. Charles Wilson (formerly a slave), who has acquired property by his industry and care, was present, and presented a statement showing how cruelly his provision fields had been robbed; but this obtained no sompathy, whilst all slander and abuse towards the large proprietors and planters were received with the greatest cheers and vociferous cries.

I have, &c.

The Honourable Hugh W. Austin, Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) W. P. GEORGES, Custos, St. David.

Encl. 3 in No. 47.

Enclosure 3 in No. 47.

PRINTED Copy of Resolutions passed at Meeting in St. David's.

St. David's, June 26, 1865.

At a public meeting held at Easington Court-house on the 24th June, agreeably to requisition to his honour the Custos, for the purpose of expressing public sentiments regarding Dr. Underhill's letter, and the distress prevalent throughout the Island, Samuel Clarke, Esq., was called to the chair, and M. J. A. Hague appointed secretary.

The requisition convening the meeting was read, after which the chairman in a plain and forcible manner explained the object of the meeting.

The following communications from Messrs. S. C. Burke and Aaron Salom, Members of Assembly for the parish, and the Rev. Samuel R. Ward, were read:—

Dear sir, Kingston, June 21, 1865.

I have received a requisition from the parishioners of St. David's, asking me to attend a meeting to be held on the 24th instant. I would gladly have complied, but indisposition will prevent me. I trust you will make this known to the friends, so that they might be in possession of the cause of my absence. I trust you will have a full meeting, and may the subjects to be brought forward be calmly discussed.

I am, &c.

Samuel Clarke, Esq. A. SALOM.

Dear Sirs, Kingston, June 21, 1865.

I have been favoured with your communication of the 10th instant, inviting my attendance at the public meeting to be held in St. David's on the 24th instant. I regret exceedingly that I shall be professionally engaged on that day at Morant Bay, which will prevent my being at Easington. But I express the hope that you may have a good meeting, and that you may enunciate sound views on the subject of the recent distress. Although unable to be present, I shall gladly second your endeavours in promoting any measures calculated to ameliorate the condition of those suffering.

Believe me, &c.

Messrs. Samuel Clarke and others. S. CONSTANTINE BURKE.

To the Meeting of the Inhabitants of St. David.

Gentlemen,—As I shall be unable to attend your gathering of the 24th instant, I beg to submit to you a few thoughts, such as, were I present, I should ask the privilege of uttering to you.

I beg of you, whatever be your distress, whatever be their extent, whatever be their sonrce or sources, whatever be the relief proposed, be not discouraged.

On the smaller yeomanry, the class to which the majority of you belong, Jamaica chiefly depends. A large proportion of the great staple productions of the Island are produced by you on your own little properties. The coffee and the sugar which the thirty thousand "small settlers" as they are called produce go far towards making up the amount of our Island exports. The produce of the large estates is the work of your hands. The minor productions are yours exclusively. Without the produce of your provision grounds the population could not be fed. If, therefore, you allow any cause whatever to palsy your hands by discouraging your hearts, what must become of Jamaica?

You are the men who do their own work. Every country situated as Jamaica is must depend chiefly upon the class of self-helping tillers of the soil. Large capitalists have their place, and a very important place it is; but if a country is obliged to do without either, it could better afford to spare the mere man of money than the man of labour. But in a country like ours, a class of landowners, who have neither muscle nor capital, who put up the piteous wail of ruin thrice in every decade, who feel obliged to honour money until their credit is exhausted wherever they are known, is as useless to a young poor community like ours as drones in a bee-hive. Nor is it the least that can be said in their disparagement, that no imaginable amount of labour or capital will save such a class from periodical disaster and ultimate ruin.

Such a class you have in Jamaica; such in all past time has been its history; such, according to its own organs and oracles, is its present condition, just because such are its inherent and incurable views.

Of course its future must be but the natural maturing of its character, growth, and tendencies. You know I describe your large sugar growers as a class.

Now, God be praised, that you belong to a class that sends no cry of ruin across the Atlantic through the "Standard" or any other hireling sheet. You depend upon no importations of countless heathen barraconi to do your work. You do not come to the necessity of living in lordly castles at princely expenses to support your dignity, whether you can pay the cost or not. You, therefore, are able to grow bread for your families and a surplus for the markets, besides contributing your full share to the exportable products of the Island, debtless and unruined.

Brethren! If you fail through the little cloud that now overhangs your sky, if you yield to despair, I ask again, what must become of our beloved Jamaica? Can any other class now compete with you? Are you not rooted to the soil? Do you intend at some distant day to gather up all you will have made in Jamaica, and carry it beyond the seas, to invest and to expend in other lands, to enrich them?

Allow me to beseech you to increase your productions rather than diminish them. Enlarge your fields, rather than contract them. Add stock to your other property and your other sources of income; and if you have time and labour to spare, and estates need both, surely you will be wise enough to take advantage of cash employment. But be not discouraged.

You have some important duties to perform as free men. Among them is the education of your children, and the training of yourselves to an improved moral status. Let no human considerations impede much less prevent this great needed twofold work. Then your children will have the advantage of cultivated minds and skilled hands, and Jamaica will have what she never had before; a free educated, industrious, and moral class of self-helping young yeoman. Be not discouraged.

I do not write as if I knew not that you have enemies. I am not among those who believe that all other classes wish you well. But my belief is that if you stand together and perform the duties incumbent on you as a class, you will be able, through the blessing of God, to withstand all that you may have to contend with.

True, the Hon. George Solomon and the Hon. Raynes Waite Smith would gladly fasten upon you a debt of 10,000*l.* a year for the next twenty-five years, just to raise a loan for the large sugar planters. Some of you have expressed to me the fear that such gentlemen would gladly see you all re-enslaved. It is quite true that one of these gentlemen placed upon your necks the galling yoke of food-tax under which you now groan; it is true, too, that he said distinctly, when proposing the Increased Import Bill, that "20,000*l.* must be raised from others, because the planters could not pay another farthing," &c.; it is true, too, that the other of these gentlemen petulantly resigned his seat in Parliament for a neighbouring parish because the British Government would not impose upon you a larger proportion of the expense of importing heathens to work the estates of such gentlemen as these, and it is equally true that Mr. Solomon belongs to the same race as those who own the "Standard" and "Tribune," the two bitterest anti-negro prints in the Island; and every body knows that the former of these sheets of venom is the organ par excellence of the planting class, to which Messrs. Solomon and Smith belong. Yet I do not conclude from all this that either they or the howling editors whose Gentile brains are bought with Hebrew gold really desire what some of you fear or suspect. My opinion is that it suits their purpose better to load you as freedmen with burdensome taxes for their interests, and then to abuse you, knowing that you cannot defend yourselves. But be not discouraged. Thank God, neither Mr. Solomon nor Mr. Smith is in the Executive Committee, while it is in your power to make the odium of this accursed proposition of theirs cling to them till their latest days. In spite of their worst designs, whether successful or unsuccessful, be ye not discouraged.

In conclusion, I beg to recommend the appointment of a central corresponding committee, whose business shall be to counsel with the small planters all over the Island, and by interchange of views, and the reciprocal expression of brotherly feeling, unite them as one man for the maintenance of their interests, rights, and position. Thirty thousand independent farmers are not to be despised in any part of the British empire. Thirty thousand tillers of the soil are not to be taxed for a quarter of a century to raise a loan for a feeble, pampered, helpless class, who know not the A B C of self-reliance. Thirty thousand sturdy yeoman, who have raised themselves, under God, from nothing to your present position in thirty years, ought not to be discouraged by the lowering of a few clouds of adversity in this good year of grace. While God does not forsake us, let us rest upon His gracious promise of "seed time and harvest." Let us "trust in Him and do good, so shall we dwell (not starve) in the "land, and verily we shall be fed." "Let all the people praise Thee, O God; yea, let all the people "praise Thee, then shall the earth yield her increase, and God even our God shall bless us."

Your adopted countryman,

June 1865. SAMUEL RINGGOLD WARD.

The following resolutions were unanimously carried, after being ably supported by Messrs. Robert Levy, W. T. Brands, Thomas Hardy, Thomas W. Nicholas, J. D. Clarke, John Grange, J. W. Menard, George W. Brown, Benjamin Campbell, James Loague, Archibald Dick, Charles Wilson, Robert Stuart, James McFarlane, Richard Garnet, Grant Brown, and Robert W. Wiltshire:—

Resolved 1st—That this meeting, finding the condition of this parish becoming daily more depreciated, and the inhabitants in a state of unprecedented distress, feel constrained to express its apprehension of the present crisis, and will use every legitimate means to avert all the evil results which are likely to flow therefrom.

Resolved 2d—That from seasons of drought, scarcity of food, and absence of employment, combined with heavy taxation, the inhabitants of this parish have felt the pressure so severely that very many have had it in contemplation of leaving the Island for other places more congenial and advantageous to personal comfort and domestic peace.

Resolved 3d—That the labourers on the estates of this parish are not honestly and adequately paid for their labour; that great wrong and injury attends the small settlers in the destruction of their provision grounds, by the unlawful and unrestricted freedom of large herds of cattle belonging to proprietors of estates and pens; and that great inconvenience is experienced also from the bad and shameful condition of the roads in the mountain districts.

Resolved 4th—That the Island press (we mean the Guardians of slavery) have proven a most

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destructive and malicious barrier to everything that tends to improve the moral and intellectual status of the labouring classes; and that it is with manly contempt we see daily their dastardly and diabolical attempts to impugn the motives and long-hidden facts of Dr. Underhill's letter.

Resolved 5th—That apparently in our courts of justice favouritism is rampant; that there is a law for the rich and a law for the poor; that it is with serious apprehension we see year after year our self-interested law-makers creating new and useless offices, to be filled by hankering favourites, whose princely salaries come by increased taxation; and that political classification and monopoly, as carried on by the powers that be, especially in governmental affairs, have proven most dangerous and destructive barriers to that political freedom and equity which the British constitution vouchsafes to all classes in all parts of the British dominions.

Resolved 6th—That it is the opinion of this meeting that the establishment of an Island agricultural loan bank or joint stock company for the small settlers and the commercial trading interest of this Island would to a great degree ameliorate the present retrograding condition of agriculture and other interest, and remove many of those inconveniences which the want of capital has forced upon those who would engage in it.

[We exclude the 7th resolution.]

Resolved 8th—That a committee be appointed, to be designated "The Central Communicating Committee," whose business shall be to correspond with the yeomen throughout the Island on subjects of agriculture and other branches of native industry.

Resolved 9th—That the foregoing resolutions be published in all the Island newspapers; that a copy of the same be forwarded to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, through his Excellency the Governor; and that one also be forwarded to Dr. Underhill, as a mark of gratitude for his timely interference.

Resolved 10th—That this meeting do now give three cheers for Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen; and that the chairman appoint a suitable deputation to present these resolutions to his Excellency the Governor, to be by him forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The chairman appointed the following gentlemen as a deputation to present the resolutions to his Excellency the Governor:—Messrs. Samuel Clarke, Archibald Dick, Benjamin H. Campbell, Jas. A. Hague, Robert Levy, Abram Campbell, W. T. Brands, T. W. Nicholas, Alexander Miller, Thomas Hardy, Geo. W. Brown, James F. Loague, J. D. Clarke, Edw. Carr, Edward McFarlane, John Grange, J. W. Menard, Samuel C. Burke, and Aaron Salom, and Reverends Edwin Palmer and Samuel R. Ward.

And also the following gentlemen were appointed the communicating committee:—

Revs. Samuel R. Ward, Jas. F. Roach, and Edwin Palmer, and Messrs. Samuel Clarke, J. W. Menard, Robert Levy, Thos. Wm. Nicholas, Thos. Hardy, and James A. Hague.

Resolved 11th—That Mr. Robert Stuart, churchwarden, be called to the chair, to tender the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Samuel Clarke for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over the business of this meeting; and that the chairman and secretary do sign the minutes on behalf of the meeting.

SAMUEL CLARKE, Chairman.
JAMES A. HAGUE, Secretary.

No. 48.

No. 48.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P. to Governor EYRE.

(No. 299.)

SIR, Downing Street, October 3, 1865.

* Page 228.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 174* of 12th July, forwarding certain resolutions passed at a public meeting held in the parish of St. David's relative to Dr. Underhill's letter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

No. 49.

No. 49.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 180.) King's House, July 17, 1865.

SIR, (Received, August 14, 1865.)

Extract from "Jamaica Guardian," 15 July 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a printed letter recently published in the local newspapers, showing the manner in which and the objects for which late public meetings have been got up in connexion with Dr. Underhill's letter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

To the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 49.

From the "Jamaica Guardian" of Saturday, July 15, 1865.

We recently met with the following circular, which gives curious advice, and throws considerable light upon the manner in which certain ignorant people in Jamaica are tutored to act and vote at some of the so-called public meetings of Jamaica:—

Dear Sir, Saint Ann's Bay, July , 1865.

Recently Dr. Underhill in the mother country has written to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, informing him of the distressed condition of the labouring population of this Island. The Home Government, through the Secretary, has communicated with his Excellency the Governor of this Colony, inquiring whether this is the fact or not, and his Excellency has addressed the custodes of parishes, making the required investigation. Now we are quite certain, from our intimate knowledge, that his Excellency has appealed to the *wrong source* for the necessary information, and in pertinent proof adduce the fact that these custodes, from rank and position, are far retired from the people, and therefore as a natural consequence do not know any thing of their social or domestic situation. As there is now a discussion in England on the subject, with a view to elicit the truth, whether or not the labouring people of this Colony are distressed in circumstances, and *the enemies of the negro race, and opposers of their advancement, are busy both with their tongues and pens to bring into disrepute, and to falsify, the statements regarding the rampant distress and oppression of Jamaica, and to censure the conduct of Doctor Underhill, the Baptist Missionaries, and others*, in bringing the same before the British public, let us seize the present favourable opportunity to furnish our philanthropic friends there with the necessary details of this fact, in order to strenghten them in their advocacy on our behalf. But the ONLY WAY *by which you can do this is to convene a public meeting, and then to propose and pass certain resolutions, expressing your distressed and oppressed condition, confirming the statement of Doctor Underhill, returning him your heartful gratitude for his great watchfulness and paternal solicitude, exercised on behalf of the distressed people of this Colony.* The public meeting will be held on Saturday the 29th of July instant, at the Temporary Court-house, St. Ann's Bay, at 11 o'clock a.m. precisely, when the chair will be occupied by ————. Several addresses will be delivered by the friends of the convention, and all interested in the welfare of the lately emancipated are most urgently and respectfully invited.

Having the honour to be, dear Sir,
Your most obedient servants,
THOMAS RODNEY, Acting Chairman.
JOSEPH BURTON, Secretary pro tem.

Who Thomas Rodney, acting chairman, and Joseph Burton, secretary pro tem, are, we neither know nor care for, but the manner in which they endeavour to instruct and prompt the persons who are expected to meet at the Temporary Court-house in St. Ann's Bay on the 29th instant is a fair subject for public comment. While we dissent from most of the statements of this document, we have placed in italics the words which we consider most objectionable, and which no one can read without being struck with the improper manner in which cries of distress are in Jamaica got up, and the way the peasantry are instructed to uphold these, by their voices and votes, and to embody them in resolutions to be sent to England, there to serve the purposes of a few designing unscrupulous men.

"His Excellency the Governor had appealed (or applied) to the wrong source for the necessary information" about the starvation and nakedness of the peasantry, alleged to be so general in Jamaica. He applied to the custodes of parishes, to clergymen, missionaries, and ministers of religion, to Baptist missionaries among the number, but evidently, in the opinion of Messrs. Rodney and Burton, he applied to the wrong sources for information. This is the old cry, that white men and well-educated coloured men cannot or will not tell the truth of the peasantry of Jamaica; that even when these are clergymen and missionaries they cannot be believed as regards what they state of the masses of Jamaica. True the circular only mentions custodes of parishes, "who from rank and position are far retired from the people, and therefore do not know any thing of their social or domestic situation;" but the writer of the circular must have known that the Governor applied to the clergy, ministers of religion, and missionaries, as well as the custodes of parishes, for information about the alleged distress in Jamaica. There was here a palpable suppression of the truth, but one which would tell upon the minds of the peasantry, who do not read the public newspapers, and who, as we wrote in a former article, would join any in whom they had confidence in the cry that they were oppressed and unjustly treated. But had Governor Eyre only applied to the custodes of parishes, the character of the majority of the custodes for integrity, intimate knowledge of the circumstances and condition of the peasantry, and sympathy with them in all cases of real and unavoidable distress, would constitute them a good source whence to obtain most important information regarding the alleged starvation in Jamaica. But no; a few of the Baptist missionaries, apparently wishing to boltster up their tottering case, could not trust in the custodes, the clergy, and in their missionary brethren of the Moravian, Presbyterian, Wesleyan, and Independent missionary societies, and therefore they clamoured for a commission from England, and have, apparently, instructed beforehand their people what they should say and do in the public meetings convened for the avowed purpose of discussing certain questions, but in reality of deciding upon foregone conclusions. Let us give the names of the custodes of parishes, that the memories of our readers may be refreshed a little as regards their public characters, and that the public may judge whether the majority of them would not give a pretty correct account of the alleged distress in the country. The Honourables L. Q. Bowerbank, S. Rennalls, L. F. Mackinnon, F. Lowe, J. R. Hollingsworth, J. Salmon, B. Vickers, H. A. Whitelocke, G. L. Phillips, C. Royes, A. J. Lindo, H. Westmorland, W. Hosack, G. Solomon, Baron Von Ketelhodt, W. P. Georges, R. Hamilton, and S. W. Mais. Every one, with the exception of Doctor Bowerbank, has been long engaged in cultivating the soil, mixes daily almost with the peasantry as regards the employment of labour, knows them and their mode of life from observation and experience, and few of them who are not liberal-minded gentlemen, occupying in the Legislative Council and in the House of Assembly

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prominent positions in the country. But were it possible that the majority of them were prejudiced against the peasantry, and blind to their real condition, how could the same be expected or said of the large number of clergy and missionaries of the country, with the exception of the few indiscreet Baptist missionaries who having written grossly exaggerated statements of widespread and general distress amounting to the "starvation and nakedness of multitudes," wished to make out that they were justified in their statements.

We have been somewhat at a loss to ascertain or account for some of the Baptist missionaries writing as they did of Jamaica in September or October 1864, and for their conduct since, as regards the Underhill controversy. Probably the explanation is of a twofold character. First, 1864 was the year of the Baptist Mission Jubilee in Jamaica, and we believe some of the missionaries, whose judgment is not of the sober cautious type of the Scotchman, had written previously to England that they expected the Baptist churches in Jamaica would raise for the Jubilee Fund in thank-offerings about 10,000*l.* When the result of appeals to the churches became known, it was found that about 2,000*l.* was all that would be collected; and 2,000*l.*, in our opinion, was a very handsome sum for the "starving and naked" members of the Baptist churches in Jamaica to raise in jubilee year, besides supporting their own ministers and helping to maintain their own schools. Another reason probably was, that the voluntary shoe, taken up and put on when many of the peasantry of Jamaica were inclined to support more liberally the Baptist Missionaries than they have been within the last few years, had begun to pinch most uncomfortably. Other missionaries, though as strong lovers of and believers in the voluntary principle as the Baptist missionaries, were more circumspect than they. They knew human nature better, and especially human nature emerging from slavery into full freedom, as in Jamaica, and therefore they hesitated to sever the connexion, as regards entire pecuniary support, with the home mission societies. Hence, while equally zealous and devoted with the Baptist missionaries, they felt themselves not entirely dependant upon the members of their congregations for pecuniary support, and could and have acted with more freedom and independence as regards matters of church discipline. Hence also they could do and have done more of late years for popular education; for, as the Baptist missionaries depend entirely for their support upon the members of their congregations, and as the teachers also are not to receive any state support, it was a heavy drag upon the means of unwilling congregations to support comfortably both Baptist missionary and teacher. From these things arose constant appeals to the "Society of Friends" and others in England for assistance towards the Baptist schools, which appeals and responses to we entirely approve of, as needful under the circumstances; and for the same reasons, in our opinion, the more recent, strong, but indirect appeal for themselves, from the Baptist missionaries, for pecuniary assistance; for if "multitudes" of their people were in a state of "nakedness" and "starvation," in what condition could be the ministers entirely dependant upon the voluntary contributions of such naked and starving people? These things were not expressed in so many words, but they were naturally to be inferred from the representations; and we come to the conclusion that several of the Baptist missionaries in Jamaica not only wished to put forward an excuse for their small contributions to the Baptist Jubilee Offering, but indirectly to suggest and powerfully plead for themselves to be restored to the partial assistance of the parent society, or at least to excite the sympathy and get the assistance of the many rich Baptists in England and Scotland who still feel so deeply in the welfare of the peasantry of Jamaica. In doing so we fear they have over-reached themselves, and now stand convicted before the public of Jamaica as men in whose good judgment the confidence of the British and Jamaica public cannot be placed. We are sorry to have to state this as our deliberately formed conclusion; but such it is, and by it we shall abide till better informed.

No. 50.

No. 50.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 183.) King's House, July 21, 1865.

SIR, (Received, August 14, 1865.)

Encl. in No. 37. Grand Jurors to the Hon. Judge Ker, 17 July 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a printed copy of a presentment made by the Grand Jurors in St. Ann's on the 17th instant, in which occasion is taken to refer to the memorial from certain poor people of St. Ann's to the Queen, and to your reply thereto on Her Majesty's behalf.

The grand jurors unequivocally ignore the statements contained in the memorial as representing the true condition of St. Ann's.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. in No. 50.

Enclosure in No. 50.

ST. ANN'S CIRCUIT COURT.

The following is the Presentment made by the Grand Jurors at the St. Ann's Circuit Court held on the 16th instant.

YOUR HONOUR, Grand Jury Room, St, Ann's Bay, July 17, 1865.

WE, the grand jury of the parish of St. Ann, in making this presentment, cannot but share with your Honour in the feeling of gratification expressed at the comparative smallness of the calendar of

the present court. Whilst our duties have been light, we have been pained in finding that the crime of manslaughter has stained the list placed before us. Small as has been the calendar, we nevertheless have to deplore the fact, that crime in St. Ann exists to an extent quite proportionate to other parishes; and but for non-detection, and the absence of sufficient proof to lead to conviction, the duties of the present court might have been rendered much more arduous.

Larcenies of quite new features we are sorry to say have of late appeared in our parish, and which, from the facilities afforded to perpetrators, become the more alarming, and unless checked by the strong arm of the law must prove ruinous to our proprietary body. We refer to those of the slaughtering of cattle in the pastures; the stealing of sheep; the depredations made on the staple products of the parish, where large quantities of canes have been cut from the central parts of the cane fields, and used in the manufacturing of sugar by small settlers, who keep rude sugar-mills, but who do not cultivate the plant. These form quite a new species of crime in the parish, whilst those of hog stealing, and the plundering of provision fields, are as numerous as hitherto.

We take the opportunity of offering a few remarks upon the "Government Notice" which appeared some days since in the "Gazette by Authority," in reference to a memorial said to have been sent from St. Ann's by certain "poor persons," through his Excellency the Governor, to Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Majesty's reply thereto, published for general information. Foremost as those memorialists may appear among the many of other parishes in endorsing the views of Dr. Underhill as to the "starving condition and nakedness" of our peasantry, this memorial cannot be considered as expressive of the actual condition of the labouring population of St. Ann; nor is it approved of by the more industrious and well-trained of our peasantry.

We have ascertained that it emanated from but a small portion of our labouring people residing in the district of Ocho Rios, and was concocted by some idle persons living about the villages; that it was prepared without the knowledge or consent of their ministers, to whose churches they profess to be attached; nor did the memorial bear the signatures of such ministers, or vouched for by any persons of respectability

Unblushing immorality, we are sorry to say, stalks the parish! Yet we believe not for the want of any effort on the part of the Spiritual teachers of the people, whose endeavours have been very praiseworthy, but their counsels are in a manner unheeded.

We close our address to your Honour by expressing our conviction that nothing militates more against the peace and prosperity of the Island, or tends more to engender in the minds of an ignorant peasantry disloyalty and sedition, than the oft-repeated, unjustifiable, and unbecoming villification of the Government and public authorities of the land, as is put forth in so systematic a manner by most of the leading journals of the Island. The parish of St. Ann has always preserved a character of loyalty and of esteem towards the powers that be. That loyalty cannot be better extended than through the medium of a grand jury of the parish, and we would here record our disapprobation of the sentiments so frequently put forth to the world by the press of the Island.

We only repeat what other grand juries of St. Ann's have with so much fairness expressed, when we state our high appreciation of the intelligence and impartial justice which in the present day distinguish the judicial bench of this Island.

(Signed) SAMUEL HORLOCK,
Foreman.

Hon. A. Ker, Judge, &c.

No. 51.

No. 51.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

King's House, July 24, 1865.
(Received, August 14, 1865.)
(Answered, No. 279, Aug. 22, 1865, page 237.)

(No. 189.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a communication this moment received from the Custos of St. Elizabeth, enclosing documents representing that there is an apprehension that riot or rebellion will break out in some of the parishes at the commencement of August next (the anniversary of freedom), on the grounds that they are unjustly taxed.

Mr. Salmon to Mr. Austin, 22 July 1865.
Mr. Salmon to Governor, 22 July 1865.
Mr. Hudson to Mr. Salmon, 20 July 1865.

2. Should this be so, it will be due entirely to Dr. Underhill's letter and to the delusions which have been instilled into the minds of the ignorant peasantry by designing persons in reference to it.

3. Every effort will be made to prepare for and guard against the contingency suggested, nor do I myself anticipate any serious outbreak.

4. Fifty thousand copies of your reply on behalf of the Queen to the poor settlers of St. Ann's are being distributed and posted in every district of the Island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 1 in No. 51.

Encl. 1 in No. 51.

Mr. SALMON to Mr. AUSTIN.

SIR, Malvern P.O., July 22, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to enclose the accompanying report for his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.

The Hon. H. W. Austin, &c. &c. (Signed) JOHN SALMON, Custos of St. Elizabeth.

Encl. 2 in No. 51.

Enclosure 2 in No. 51.

Mr. SALMON to the GOVERNOR.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, St. Elizabeth, Malvern P.O., July 22, 1865.

I THINK it my duty to inform your Excellency that the minds of many persons in this parish are distressed by rumours of intended disturbances by the negroes; among these, the resisting the payment of taxes, and the appropriation of lands to their own use, is said to be their every day conversation.

Mr. W. R. Smith mentioned to me that Dr. M'Catty had a communication to make to me as custos (I believe on this subject), but I have not heard from him. I enclose a letter from Mr. Hudson, a highly respectable coloured gentleman, a magistrate.

I have been spoken to by several of the peasantry and coloured people, but I cannot arrive at any certain information.

I believe many of the black proprietors do intend to withhold the payment of the August tax; if so, the enforcing the law by levy would very likely create disturbance.

It is unlikely, almost impossible, that the constantly referring to over-taxation, and under-pay for labour, and unjust import duty, and unequal administration of law, and impediments to export, and extortion and frauds, can do other than create dissatisfaction among even the quietly disposed, and entirely prevent any good feeling growing up.

I am told the chat among the negroes is "Buckra has gun; negro has fire-stick."

That a large portion of the people do not participate in this bad feeling or evil intention I believe. But it appears to me quite necessary that a strong hand should at once arrest a spirit now abroad, and which requires to be compelled to fear the law, and respect the rights and security of the community.

The Despatch from Mr. Cardwell, in reply to the St. Ann's memorial to the Queen, is represented here as a "false make up." The people never see the Gazette, and few have heard of Mr. Cardwell's letter. If 200 copies were distributed through each parish, and posted at the public places, and your Excellency thought it fit to issue a proclamation referring to the reports or evil intentions now said to be rife, I believe the effect would be good.

Your Excellency may consider it necessary to have it understood that the peace is not to be broken, and perhaps serious loss of property and life follow, and to have it seen that means are at hand to put down any attempt at seditious commotion. But, to put a stop to any attempt to carry out these intentions, if they exist, it might be worthy of consideration the presenting before the people some force ready to punish and put down an emeute. A vessel of war, the morning and evening gun, would have effect.

I have no reason but report for saying that the St. James's people are the leaders in the alleged disaffection.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) JOHN SALMON, Custos, St. Elizabeth.

Encl. 3 in No. 51.

Enclosure 3 in No. 51.

Mr. HUDSON to Mr. SALMON.

DEAR SIR, Spring Vale, July 20, 1865.

I THINK it incumbent on me to inform you of certain reports of a serious nature which are in circulation in my neighbourhood.

For the past few weeks there have been rumours of a rebellion among the peasantry, but I did not attach any importance to them, but conceived they originated from want of understanding the causes of the recent meetings held in this and the adjacent parishes, until lately. I have been led by sufficient information to believe they are more than passing reports, and which require some notice.

It appears that there is an organized plot among the people in this vicinity for a rebellion about the early part of August ensuing. My reasons for believing there is truth in the matter are these—

A house girl of mine has stated several times to my family's hearing that the black people have agreed upon rising in arms at the above period for the purpose of murdering the upper classes, and destroying and afterwards seizing their properties. She does not deny that she obtained this information from her friends. For the present she will not say anything more on the subject, but only state, "We must wait, and see." Other persons have likewise given us intelligence of a similar nature. Dr. M'Catty mentioned something to me of a like import which tends greatly to strengthen them. He stated he had already acquainted you with the purport of his information.

I do not think it would be wise to treat these rumours merely as "idle tales." My district is hot to join with other parts of the Island in a move of the kind, if made.

My delicate state of health prevents my calling to see you, but I shall be glad to give you whatever further information in my power, and to receive any directions from you on the subject.

It would not be prudent to allow these strong reports to continue, without preparing, as far as we are able, against an attempt of disturbance, should it turn out to be correct. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.

The Hon. John Salmon, Custos. (Signed) JOHN HUDSON.

No. 52. No. 52.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 279.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 22, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 189,* of 24th July, forwarding a letter from the Custos of St. Elizabeth with reference to an apprehended riot or rebellion among the peasantry in some of the parishes. * Page 235.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 53. No. 53.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.)

King's House, August 8, 1865.
(Received, August 31, 1865.)
(Answered No. 298, September 29, 1865, page 237.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 236† of the 7th ultimo, relative to the resolutions adopted at a public meeting at Montego Bay in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter. † Page 205.

2. You do not state whether any or what reply is to be sent to the gentlemen who transmitted those resolutions, and I would respectfully solicit your instructions upon this point.

3. Permit me also to express my grateful sense of the good opinion you have been pleased to entertain of my labours in collecting and collating the information called for in consequence of Dr. Underhill's letter.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 54. No. 54.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 298.)

SIR, Downing Street, September 29, 1864.

IN answer to your Despatch marked Separate of the 8th of August, I have to request that you will acquaint the gentlemen who transmitted to me the resolutions adopted at a public meeting at Montego Bay in reference to Dr. Underhill's letter, that I duly received them, and, if you see no objection, a communication may be made to them of the substance of my Despatch No. 236‡ of the 7th of July. ‡ Page 205

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 55.

No. 55.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Eyre to the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 191.) King's House, July 27, 1865.

Sir, (Received, August 31, 1865.)

* Page 19. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 223,* of the 15th ultimo, transmitting copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Act. No. 4502. Colonial Office and the War Department, in which it is stated that an objection is felt by His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief to the brevet rank of colonel in the Jamaica Militia being conferred on Captain Hunt of the Royal Marines as inspector of militia and volunteers.

2. In accordance with your instructions I will bring under the notice of the Legislature the propriety of repealing the 35th section, which confers the rank.

3. I think it right, however, to point out that Captain Hunt's is not an isolated case. His predecessor, Captain Maycock, held the same rank without any objection having been made to it; and in the colonies of Barbados and Demerara I understand that the Governors have several colonial aides-de-camp, each of whom respectively enjoys the brevet rank of a lieutenant-colonel.

4. There are also in Jamaica a very considerable number of militia officers still holding commissions, though no militia has been called out or embodied for a very great length of time.

Amongst these officers there are one major-general, and many colonels, lieutenant-colonels, majors, captains, et cetera. All of these would take position in accordance with the rules of the service if they were ever out in the field with troops of Her Majesty's regular army. It is true the rank they hold is not brevet but regimental. Still as the regiments are not in existence, and have not been for years, and as few, if any of the officers have undergone any sufficient military training, or had any opportunities of seeing service, their being placed in a position where command would devolve upon them might be much more unsatisfactory than in the case of a marine officer so competent and experienced as Captain Hunt.

5. The commissions thus held under ordinary circumstances ought to be cancelled, but considering that the gentlemen holding them have paid large sums of money for them, it would not be just to deprive them of their rank without repaying the cost of the commissions, for which there is no fund available.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 56.

No. 56.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Eyre to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 198.) King's House, Jamaica, August 7, 1865.

Sir, (Answered, No. 288, September 8, 1865, page 247.)

* Page 235. Referring to my Despatch No. 189* of 24th July, I have now the honour to transmit further correspondence relative to the supposed intention of the peasantry of St. Elizabeth's and St. James, to create disturbances in those parishes on or about the 1st August, and to the means taken to preserve the public peace.

Every practicable precaution was taken to be prepared for any outbreak, but I am happy to say that the anniversary of freedom passed off quietly and without any disturbance whatever.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 56.

JAMAICA.

Encl. in No. 56.

St. Elizabeth, Malvern Post Office,
July 25, 1865.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

MR. GREAVES, a magistrate, who lives in the Slype Savanna, almost entirely the property of small settlers, called on me yesterday with the purpose of informing me that several of the small proprietors in his neighbourhood has desired him to let me know that they were fully aware that on the first day of August a large body of negroes from their neighbourhood, and he believed the intention wide-spread, had determined on proceeding to Black River, accompanied by their wives and the women of the neighbourhood, and that the purpose was that the women should take at the stores anything they required.

Mr. Greaves was told that his informants were willing to depose to these statements, and that, unless steps were taken to prevent, something bad would come of it; that the people knew there was no power to resist them.

The people allege that they have been informed that the Queen has sent out a large sum of money to be laid out in the purchase of lands to be divided among them, and that the custos has kept it for himself, refusing to appropriate it; there is also the old report repeated that they are again to be made slaves.

A carpenter working with me has told me that a young coloured man stated publicly that he could not return to St. James, as things would alter there soon, "and he did not like what they were saying over that side."

That something is intended by the people, and which, if as stated, may cause resistance on the part of the storekeepers, seems to be generally the impression, and there is no knowing what may result.

I have taken the liberty of stating to your Excellency, in my communication of the 22d instant, per express packet post, that I considered the presence of some force at Black River necessary. A vessel of war, which could anchor in the harbour early on the 1st of August, without any previous general information of her coming, and land a force if required, would be sufficient, I believe, and would not prevent any demonstration if intended, and which it would be I consider judicious to fathom; at any rate to be made aware whether the reports have sufficient foundation for further caution, or have any foundation at all.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos, St. Elizabeth.

Governor EYRE to Commodore CRACROFT, C.B.

(Confidential.)

Sir, King's House, July 25, 1865.

It having been reported to me that in consequence of the late meetings which have been held in various districts in connexion with Dr. Underhill's letter, a spirit of disaffection has been excited amongst the peasantry of some of the parishes, and some apprehensions being entertained that attempts may be made at the approaching 1st of August to create disturbances or otherwise act in opposition to the laws of the land, I should be much obliged by your detaching a man-of-war for a few weeks, to visit alternately (staying a short time at each) the ports of "Black River," Savanna-la-Mar," "Lucea," and "Montego Bay;" the commander putting himself, when practicable, in communication with the custos of the parish.

Mr. Salmon, custos of "St. Elizabeth," could be communicated with from "Black River" through the collector of customs or through the police.

Mr. Phillips, the custos of "St. James," resides at "Montego Bay."

Mr. Vickers, the custos of "Westmorland," could be communicated with from "Savanna-la-Mar," through the police.

The custos of Hanover (Lucea) is absent from the Island.

It would be desirable the vessel of war should remain on the station indicated until further instructions from you.

It will be desirable also to instruct the commander of H.M. man-of-war which may be sent down, not to mention the reason of his being so sent, as it is not desirable to call attention to the subject, or to create any needless alarm.

I have, &c.

Commodore Cracroft, C.B.,
Royal Navy.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Governor EYRE to Commodore CRACROFT, C.B.

(Confidential.)

Sir, King's House, July 26, 1865.

Since my letter to you of the 25th instant, requesting that a vessel of war might be detached to visit the ports of "Black River," "Savannah-la-Mar," "Lucea," and "Montego Bay" about the beginning of August and during the few weeks subsequent to it, I have received further communications from the President of the Legislative Council, Mr. Salmon, who is custos of "St. Elizabeth," and from Mr. Raynes Waite Smith, a member of Assembly, and who has held office as member of the late Executive Committee (copies of these documents are enclosed).

Mr. Salmon to Governor Eyre 25 July 1865.

Mr. R. W. Smith to Mr. Salmon, 24 July 1865.

2. Without attaching too much importance to the apprehensions which are entertained, I think that prudence requires that all precautionary measures should be taken.

Two localities are indicated as likely to be the scene of disturbance if any takes place: "Black River" and "St. James."

3. Under these circumstances, I have to request that, if possible, you will detach two men-of-war instead of one.

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The one to go direct to "Black River," the other to "Montego Bay," and both to reach their destinations prior to the 1st August.

Should no disturbance of the peace take place in either locality, one of the men-of-war might return after a few days, leaving the other to visit the ports named from time to time until further instructions from you.

If the ships were to have a little gun practice in each of the ports, it might be useful in letting the peasantry know of their presence.

I think it desirable that for the present, and until something more definite is known, the object of the visits of the men-of-war should be regarded as confidential, and not be talked about.

I have, &c.

Commodore Cracroft, C.B., Royal Navy.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Mr. SALMON to Governor EYRE.

Your Excellency, July 25, 1865.

I have this moment received a communication from Mr. R. W. Smith, which I cannot consider should be private and confidential, at any rate so far as the propriety of informing your Excellency, and I therefore inclose Mr. Smith's letter.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON.

Mr. SMITH to Mr. SALMON.

(Private and Confidential.)

My dear Sir, Lilliput P.O., July 24, 1865.

I wished the other day to put you in possession of information which Dr. M'Catty had the day previous communicated to me, which was, that his dispenser had received a letter from St. James, in which allusion was made to "a great thing which was to be done in St. James in August."

There is undoubtedly a spirit of disaffection abroad, and the casual remarks dropped here and there lead to a conviction that very many of the people are ripe for mischief. People from St. James and Trelawny have been observed riding backwards and forwards in the parish; and Dr. M'Catty informed me of a night meeting having been held in Santa Cruz Mountains, at which seditious and threatening language was used. That gentleman, from his profession, has peculiar advantages for obtaining accurate information of the state of feeling existing in this and other parishes, which he describes to me "as not to be disregarded."

Mr. Beswick, who has himself heard language of similar import used, agrees with me that it is our duty as magistrates to make you acquainted with these things, and to suggest to you the propriety of considering that some steps should be taken prudently and quietly by way of preparation to counteract the evil which is abroad.

I have, &c.

The Hon. John Salmon, &c. &c.

(Signed) RAYNES W. SMITH.

Commodore CRACROFT, C.B. to Governor EYRE.

Sir, "Aboukir," Jamaica, July 27, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 26th instant, with its enclosures, and in reply beg to acquaint you that a ship of war shall be at Black River on the 1st August, to assist the local authorities in quelling any outbreak of the disaffected peasantry.

If possible a second ship shall be sent to Montego Bay.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency Edward J. Eyre, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) P. CRACROFT, Commodore.

Governor EYRE to Commodore CRACROFT, C.B.

(Confidential.)

Sir, Flamstead, July 29, 1865.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th instant informing me that, in accordance with my request, you will direct a vessel of war to be at Black River on the 1st August, and, if practicable, another to be at Montego Bay at the same date.

I regard it as important that the second vessel should be sent, if possible.

2. Since I last addressed you I have received further communications from the custodes of St. Elizabeth and St. James, indicating that much uneasiness is felt in those parishes, and confirming the impressions previously entertained, that some movement of an insurrectionary kind is really contemplated by the evil-disposed amongst the peasantry.

3. It would probably be as well, in giving instruction to the commanders of Her Majesty's ships, to leave a wide margin for discretionary action, by authorizing them to land men, if necessary, in aid of the civil power, and generally to take such measures and so arrange their movements, after consultation with the civil authorities, as circumstances may seem to render desirable.

4. Until something more definite is known of the nature and extent of the movement supposed to be

in contemplation, it appears impracticable to make any further arrangements for meeting it than will already have been done by advising the local authorities to take all practicable precautions on the spot, and by securing the presence of a man-of-war at each of the points said to be threatened.

5. I send for your perusal (in original) the last communications I have received, and which I shall be obliged by your returning to me by the bearer, as they have not yet been laid before my constitutional advisers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—If the vessel intended for Black River is gone, there is a post from Kingston to-morrow (Monday), should you wish to send additional instructions. Post leaves about 10 a.m., I think.

E. E.

Commodore Cracroft, C.B.,
Royal Navy.

Mr. Salmon to Governor Eyre, 28 July 1865.
Mr. Manley to Mr. Salmon, 27 July 1865.
Deposition of Adam Smith, 28 July 1865.
Mr. Phillips to Mr. Austin, 26 July 1865.
Mr. Salmon to Mr. Auston, 28 July 1865.

Mr. SALMON to the Governor.

Your Excellency, Malvern Post Office, July 28, 1865.

I enclose letter from Mr. Manly, a magistrate, and a statement made and signed by Adam Smith, Head Rural Constable, New Savanna District. 27 July 1865.

I have been informed that the Rev. M. Smith, Curate, Sacovia, read the reply from the Queen to the St. Ann's petition on Sunday last at the chapel after service, and that the congregation hooted him out of the church; also, that on Wednesday last many of the congregation of Moravians at Bethlehem, on the yearly "speaking collection," told the minister "they had no more to give him."

From all I can gather, there is no doubt that an insurrection and an intention to burn and rob is decided on, and that general and strong and severe measures will be necessary. The well-disposed, as Adam Smith tells me, they would be inclined to do anything they could to preserve the peace and prevent the use of fire; but they are unarmed, and have no means of even defending themselves.

I consider it my duty to be at Black River on Monday next. I may say to your Excellency that I consider it a matter of risk my family being left alone at such a time. The general opinion among proprietors, white, coloured, and black, is, that all this disturbance and ill feeling is to be attributed to the late assertions which have been made that the negroes are ill treated and cheated, and unfairly dealt with and oppressed, and that if permitted to be reiterated there will be no peace or security for property or life.

I have, &c.
His Excellency Governor Eyre. (Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos, St. Elizabeth.

I forward this without waiting for to-day's post, which should be here at 7 o'clock, but which has not arrived at a quarter past 9, and therefore I have no communication from your Excellency.

Mr. MANLEY to Mr. SALMON.

Sir, July 27, 1865.

I deem it my duty, as the only resident justice of the peace in the New Savanna neighbourhood, to bring to your honour's notice certain rumours that have come to my knowledge, to confirm what passed on Friday last at Black River as to the intended rebellious rising among certain indisposed parties in this parish. From what I can learn, the focus will be the parish of St. James, extending to this quarter, met and supported by those from the Holland and Y.S. districts. If there are any disposable public arms in Black River, I would (if your honour should so consider it requisite) request an order for such a supply as could be spared, so that I might, as a somewhat protection for property here, place them in the hands of such parties as might be trusted. I send this by our head constable, Adam Smith, who will better and more fully explain than I can write.

I have, &c.
The Hon. John Salmon Custos of St. Elizabeth. (Signed) S. J. MANLEY.

ADAM SMITH'S Statement.

July 28, 1865.

Adam Smith, head rural constable, New Savanna district, says, the constant conversation in the New Savanna neighbourhood is, that the St. James' and Westmoreland people are to meet some company from St. Elizabeth, and that they are coming to burn down the gentlemen's estates and houses, as they can't get anything to do; that they sent word to Dr. M'Catty's dispenser (who is a Lucea black man) to come away from St. Elizabeth, and join them, and that as they liked Dr. M'Catty, and did not wish to injure him, he must go away. A negro on Y. S. Estate Bridge, told William Stewart, a rural constable, that as soon "as August come, they would know what to do with him, and his badge and his staff; that the buckras had gun, and the negro mascheat and fire-stick." Stewart also says the people have constant night meetings in the Y. S. and Holland district. He, Stewart, has constantly heard in the market, and people have told him, that they will have a war; they have determined on it. He inquired of Smith what the constables were to do. Private Mackenzie, of the police at Black River, told me this morning that a man told him that when the war commenced he was the first man he would kill in August. M'Kenzie took him to Mr. Leyden, a magistrate, who discharged the man, and refused a commitment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ADAM SMITH.

JAMAICA.

Mr. PHILLIPS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Montego Bay, July 26, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, forwarding, by desire of his Excellency the Governor, copy of a letter received from the custos of St. Elizabeth.

There are some floating rumours here that the minds of the people (the labouring classes) are unsettled, and that they express great discontent about taxation, which they say is being improperly imposed on them. If this be the feeling among them it is to be feared it must have arisen from misapprehension of remarks made as to the weight of taxation on the labouring classes.

The rumours to which I have referred are that there is to be a refusal or resistance to the payment of taxes, or that the people are to do something next month. The "something" not being defined it is difficult to trace these rumours back to get reliable information. On inquiry, one person heard something from another, who on being questioned contradicts the first, or gives a different version of the conversation, or only overheard a remark, and does not know from whom, &c.; but no doubt there is general uneasiness in the minds of persons here who have heard these rumours. Only this morning I have been engaged in a private inquiry in consequence of some information received, but nothing was elicited from it.

Anonymous letters have been written in this town, conveying threats of fire and robbery on account of "the high price of cloth" and "the low rate of wages." I have seen two of these; the first addressed to myself or my firm, professing to be a warning, and advising a change in above respects; the second repeating the threat and the cause to another person; both evidently in the same handwriting, and I fear from some very mischievous and evil-minded person.

In consequence of these letters, and the rumours I have alluded to, although these are so vague, I considered it my duty to give the senior sergeant of police (in the absence of the inspector) private instructions to be on the alert, and to direct some of his best men to be so, and to be extra watchful, and to notice persons congregating together in any unusual way, or number, &c., and I shall see the inspector as early as possible. I have also had private conversations with three or four magistrates on the subject.

This is all the information I can give his Excellency in reply to your letter by this post just received, and the return post leaving almost immediately. The sending a vessel of war to this port is a very desirable move, under the circumstances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. L. PHILLIPS,
Custos, St. James'.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin.

Mr. SALMON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Malvern Post Office, July 28, 1864.

The post being so late, I have only a few minutes to acknowledge No. 1344.

I believe the matter of disturbance certain, and beg to state to his Excellency the Governor that I respectfully represent that a vessel of war to cruise off the west end of the Island, and to visit alternately the ports from Black River to Falmouth, will be of no service whatever, if it be true that immediate action is to follow the determination said to be arrived at to plunder and burn, and that it is to be at once in the three parishes. The presence of force is necessary. Where it is not what influence can it have, or rather will not the mere call and the leaving appear as if there was no force to be had, and offer an opportunity to the evil disposed to remark that the Queen's authorities will do nothing, and are controlled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos, St. Elizabeth.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin.

Commodore CRACROFT, C.B., to Governor EYRE.

Sir, Admiralty House, Port Royal, July 29, 1865.

With reference to your Excellency's letters of the 25th and 26th instant, I have the honour to inform you that H. M. Ship "Bulldog" will proceed to Black River on Monday morning at daylight, in compliance with your Excellency's request.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CRACROFT,
Commodore.

His Excellency E. J. Eyre.

Commodore CRACROFT, C.B., to Governor EYRE.

Sir, Admiralty House, Port Royal, July 30, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's communication of this date, relative to an insurrectionary movement supposed to be on foot in the parishes of St. Elizabeth and St. James, and in reply, have to acquaint you that, as reported in my letter of yesterday, the "Bulldog" will leave for Black River at daylight to-morrow.

If possible I will despatch another vessel to Montego Bay during the week.

I shall be obliged if your Excellency will furnish me with copies of the enclosures to your Despatch of to-day, as time does not admit of their being copied here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. CRACROFT,
Commodore.

His Excellency E. Eyre.

Mr. AUSTIN to Mr. VICKERS.

Sir, Government Secretary's Office, July 25, 1865.

I have the honour, by desire of the Governor, to transmit herewith copy of a letter received from the custos of St. Elizabeth, and to request your honour to ascertain (in a private manner) if a similar feeling exists in your parish among the lower orders as is represented to prevail in St. Elizabeth, and to afford the Government all information on the subject that you may be able to obtain, and whether there has been an unusual demand recently for fire-arms and ammunition in Savanna-la-Mar.

2. His Excellency would be glad if your honour would consider the propriety of placing yourself in communication with the inspector of police on the subject, and of directing that officer to be on his guard, and report any circumstances bearing on the subject that may come within his knowledge. A vessel of war will be directed to cruise round the western part of the Island, and call in at the several ports, Black River, Savanna-la-Mar, Lucea, and Montego Bay, and that the commander of the said man-of-war will on visiting Savanna-la-Mar communicate with your honour.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HUGH W. AUSTIN,
Governor's Secretary.

The Hon. B. Vickers.

Similar letter to the Honourable Geo. L. Phillips, custos, Montego Bay.

Mr. VICKERS to Mr. AUSTIN.

(Confidential.)

Sir, Belle Isle, Grange Hill P.O., July 31, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter, inquiring if a feeling of excitement existed in Westmoreland similar to that represented to prevail in St. Elizabeth by Mr. Custos Salmon and Mr. John Hudson in their communications, copies of which you enclosed me.

I have heard vague rumours for some time of dissatisfaction existing in the neighbouring parishes of St. Elizabeth's and St. James', but I do not think there are any grounds, direct or indirect, for supposing that any disaffection or intention to resist the law in any shape exists in this parish, and that it will be only necessary to take steps to guard against the influence of example should any serious disturbance take place in a neighbouring parish. This is the only cause for alarm (in my opinion).

I have made inquiries, and find that no unusual demand has prevailed in the parish for gunpowder and fire-arms. Some gentlemen of St. Elizabeth's have sent to and procured revolver pistols from Savanna-la-Mar for their personal protection. Should any demand spring up at present, the dealers of fire-arms and ammunition have agreed not to supply it.

I have directed the police inspector to be vigilant, and make all inquiries he can in a private manner. I have also directed him to hold his force in readiness to march at a moment's notice, should their services be required. I have also communicated with the officer commanding the Westmoreland volunteer rifle troop, to communicate with and prepare his men for any emergency that might render their services necessary. This corps will be under arms on Wednesday the 2d of August at Savanna-la-Mar for their usual monthly muster.

I shall make a point of communicating with the commander of the vessel of war as soon as I hear of his arrival at Savanna la Mar.

I fear that there is good cause to suppose that considerable disaffection prevails in St. James', and that the people there might be easily led into a serious disturbance.

I would call his Excellency's attention to the utter worthlessness of the police arms in this parish, they were condemned as unserviceable and dangerous by a board of militia officers, whose report was duly forwarded by me to the Government. The police are entirely also without ammunition of any sort. The volunteer troop has however in store a large quantity of private and public ammunition of the new regulation bore, which, although much smaller than that of the police arms, might be used on an emergency.

There are a few old militia muskets, some without locks and barrels, in the police station, which I have (in conformity with your letter to the inspector of police) directed to be destroyed. The militia arms were returned into store some 14 or 15 years ago by Colonel Braine.

I have directed the police inspector to retain two brass four-pounder mountain field pieces, which are themselves quite serviceable, the tangent sights alone being wanting. The wood work of the carriages and wheels are rotten, but the tyres, axles, and other iron work is as good as it ever was.

I shall not fail to keep his Excellency acquainted with everything of any importance that comes to my knowledge.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BENJ. VICKERS,
Custos of Westmoreland.

The Hon. H. W. Austin,
Governor's Secretary.

Mr. SALMON to the GOVERNOR.

Your Excellency, Black River, August 1, 1863.

I have to thank you for your note of the 30th ultimo, and the measures adopted for putting down the evil feeling abroad (I believe firmly) through the country. The "Bulldog" arrived at Black River last evening, and we are obliged by the immediate communication made by Captain Wake with myself and the magistrates. So widespread a belief and so common a subject of public talk in the country and at the market places must have had rise in some intention to do evil. Policemen and rural constables have been threatened as to what would be their fate in the August week. Wherever I had an opportunity I took occasion to warn and advise, but I really conceive without the slightest good. I am putting up a schoolroom and two bedrooms for a governess and my granddaughters expected from England. This, even to Archdeacon Rowe, on Sunday last after church, is represented as a prison I am building, and that I have a puncheon of handcuffs for those who are

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to be made slaves. Did your Excellency ever hear that where the collections were made for a memorial to the Prince Consort the reason given by congregations of our church for not subscribing was that he intended to make the people slaves again for seven years.

The post will not allow me time to say more at present, but I will have the honour of writing you again.

Some move will be made in the parish as to the state of insecurity and the effect of the evil representations of ill-disposed or thinkingless persons.

Yours, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre. (Signed) JOHN SALMON.

Mr. GILLING to the GOVERNOR.

May it please your Excellency, Black River, Aug 1. 1865.

That certain statements have been officially laid before your Excellency by the Hon. John Salmon, which are of a serious nature, against me, and that of the unbounded loyalty of the black population in this parish; that an insurrection is to take place on the 1st of August, and of which I am represented as its chief insurgent. A more false and unfounded tissue of reports has never been made up against loyalty as has been communicated to deceive the Government ab initio. I therefore pray your Excellency as a loyal subject will supply me with all such information officially received.

I am, &c.

His Excellency the Governor. (Signed) JOHN A. GILLING.

Mr. SALMON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Black River, August 1, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge No. 1,362 Despatch of 31st July.

The "Bulldog," Captain Wake, came into Black River last evening. I received a communication from Captain Wake, who afterwards landed, and was waited on by Mr. Leyden, a magistrate.

I have to report, for his Excellency's information, my belief that no disturbance has occurred in any part of the parish, and that the measures adopted for preventing any riotous intention, and at present quelling any evil disposition, have been sufficient, and that it is my purpose to go to the other parts of the parish.

The police, under the active inspector, the volunteers and inhabitants of Black River, with the magistrates, were perfectly ready, and have been, I believe, the means of preserving the peace. The arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Bulldog" was felt as satisfactory, and strengthening the civil power, and the communication with the custos and magistrates immediately after coming to anchor proved the readiness with which Captain Wake could offer any assistance which might be required.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin, (Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Governor's Secretary. Custos, St. Elizabeth.

Mr. PHILLIPS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Montego Bay, August 1, 1865.

I had the honour to reply, on the 26th ultimo, to your letter received that day by post, and I then hurriedly stated, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, all I knew of the rumours of some expected disturbance.

I have little to add now, except to say that similar rumours have continued floating about, with the same difficulty as to tracing them back to any reliable information, keeping up the same feelings of uneasiness in the minds of many persons in the community; but I cannot say that I have seen or heard anything showing any combination among the labouring classes for any acts of violence.

It appears to me that the floating rumours gain more importance than they perhaps deserve from their frequent repetition, sometimes appearing to come from three or four different quarters, when on inquiry they are traced all to the same quarter to a certain extent, but without being able to get back to the original source.

Still it would be presumptuous in me, against the opinions of so many who are uneasy about these rumours, to say that there is nothing in them.

It seems to me that there is a feeling among the labouring population which has been probably created by exaggeration or actual misrepresentation by some mischievous persons, of remarks made at recent meetings, and arising out of them, that they are being severely oppressed by the high prices of goods and provisions, and the low rates of wages, and by taxation.

I fear there are a few evil-disposed mischievous persons who seize the opportunity to try and create bad feeling or dissatisfaction, or to extend any that may exist, and that they assist in getting up or in circulating some of the talk and rumours that are about. There are some who maliciously point their remarks against individuals, for certain individuals are somehow constantly named as being marked out for attack.

Until these rumours began to circulate, there seemed no reason whatever to suspect that the labouring population, whether disposed to work, as desired, or not, was otherwise than peaceably inclined.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin, (Signed) GEO. L. PHILLIPS,
Governor's Secretary. Custos, St. James'.

Mr. VICKERS to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir, Mackfield, Westmorland, August 3, 1865.

I have to acknowledge your letter, in which you profess to reply to a letter of mine of the 26th ultimo. This is an error, inasmuch as the only letter I have addressed to you on the subject of

the prevailing excitement was dated the 31st ultimo. In that letter the Governor would be apprised that I had then adopted all the precautionary measures suggested in your letter now before me.

I have to submit, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that perfect order continues to prevail through the parish, and I see no cause to apprehend any disturbance. I was at Savanna-la-Mar yesterday expecting the vessel of war at Black River might have dropped down to our port. I enclose copy of a letter I left to be handed to the officer of that vessel should he arrive this day; if not, to be sent by this evening's post to Black River.

I may add, some considerable alarm seems to prevail amongst the gentlemen residing near the confines of this parish, from the serious reports which daily reach them from the adjacent parish of St. Elizabeth's. This has been shown by the application made to the merchants of Savannah-la-Mar for gunpowder for the purpose of self-defence.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) BENJ. VICKERS,
Custos of Westmorland.

Mr. VICKERS to the OFFICER COMMANDING H.M.S. "Bulldog."

Sir,

Savanna-la-Mar, August 2, 1865.

Having been directed by the Governor to communicate with you on your arrival at this port, I came here this morning, thinking your vessel might have dropped down from Black River.

Everything has been and still is tranquil in this district, and I do not apprehend any disturbance.

When you visit Savanna-la-Mar, should I be absent, will you kindly communicate with Mr. W. H. Farquharson, a magistrate, and captain of the volunteer troop, who will give you any information you may require. He will also send to me, and I shall be glad to come down and meet you, if your stay in the port will admit of my doing so.

I have, &c.

The Officer Commanding
H.M.S. "Bulldog," Black River.

(Signed) BENJAMIN VICKERS,
Custos of Westmorland.

Mr. SALMON to Mr. AUSTIN.

Sir,

Black River, St. Elizabeth,
July (should be August) 4, 1865.

I have to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that no disturbance has occurred in this parish. I have received many reports, but as yet no evidence sufficient to enable me to fix, beyond suspicion, a word or act. The intention to do some wrong I believe clear, and generally understood through this part of the Island, and that the steps taken in preparation to meet and put down any breach of the peace have maintained quiet and prevented an outbreak.

The presence of H.M.S. "Bulldog" has had an excellent effect. At the suggestion of some of the magistrates in the neighbourhood, I have requested Captain Wake to remain till next Monday at Black River, and also to call on the return of the "Bulldog" from the north side, and to remain here for three or four days.

I have said there is no disturbance; but among the families in the parish there is a feeling of insecurity, and among the proprietors a fear of fire, which is said to have been threatened, and which would at once burn the little left to them.

I shall consider it my duty to follow out the information I have received from one or more persons as to what has been said or threatened by individuals in the parish, and by communications from other parishes. His Excellency may rely on the prudence necessary in carrying out those inquiries. Of the information, if gained, of consequence, his Excellency shall be advised, that I may be directed.

It is my pleasing duty now to state to his Excellency that I am instructed by the magistrates and inhabitants of Black River to report the good effect they believe has followed the presence of H.M.S. "Bulldog," and the influence which the consideration and kindness of Captain Wake has had on the small proprietors who have been permitted to visit and inspect the vessel. I beg to enclose copy of my communcation to Captain Wake, requesting his continuance at and return to Black River.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin,
Governor's Secretary.

(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos of St. Elizabeth.

Mr. SALMON to Capt. WAKE, R.N.

Sir,

Black River, St. Elizabeth, August 4, 1865.

As it is the opinion of several of the magistrates of this parish that you should be requested to keep Her Majesty's ship "Bulldog" in the harbour over Sunday, I have the honour to express to you this request, which I understand to be in accordance with instructions sent to me in a Despatch dated Governor's Secretary's office, July 31, 1865, No. 1362, which I enclose for your perusal, and the part of which as to "precautionary arrangement" I take the liberty of calling your attention to.

As you have become personally aware of the contradictory reports from different parts of the parish, and the difficulty of arriving at any certainty as to what was or may be the intention of the ill-disposed, and as I have been applied to that a police force from Black River may be sent to Biscany Estate, I think it would be very desirable if on your return from the north-side you would again visit Black River for three or four days. I have by to-day's post sent a copy of this communication to his Excellency the Governor, with my reasons for the above request that Her Majesty's ship remain here for a few days, and also return.

I have now to thank you for the readiness with which you have replied to the suggestions of the magistracy, and for your presence with me on my visit to Sacovia district, supposed as disaffected, and for your courtesy in permitting the visit of different classes to the "Bulldog," which I am sure has had

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an excellent effect, as has been expressed to me by the head men on my own properties, who with their families, have been allowed to inspect the vessel.

I have, &c.

To Capt. C. Wake, R.N., H.M.S. "Bulldog," Black River.

(Signed) John Salmon, Custos.

Mr. Phillips to Mr. Austin.

Sir,

Montego Bay, August 5, 1865.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of 31st July.

I beg again to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the floating rumours which have been already referred to have not been strengthened by any positive or special information. They are still afloat, but the present week having so far passed off quietly, there appears to be rather less of the uneasiness formerly spoken of.

I have not found it necessary to take any measure of precaution such as referred to in your letter of 31st, beyond the one I had already mentioned, of requesting the inspector of police to direct his men or some of them to be more than usually watchful, and on the alert.

The vessel of war you mentioned as coming to this port under direction of his Excellency the Governor has not yet made its appearance, but my previous remarks will have shown that this has not been of any importance.

It is still rumoured that there is to be resistance in some shape to the payment of taxes, but as yet, like what has gone before, it is but rumour.

No doubt the high prices of all classes of provisions have been lately severely felt. I have never known every description of food to be at such high prices, all at the same time, as it has happened lately. The native ground provisions, flour and meal, salt-fish and pickled fish, all scarce and dear at the same time. At such a time, as is well known, the poorer classes are more easily excited to feelings of discontent, and at such a time much mischief may be done by a few evil-disposed mischievous persons. Something of this kind has probably been the case in this quarter, and it is to be hoped that some of the discontent will wear off as provisions come more within reach, and cheaper. Yams are now coming into market, and American breadstuffs (flour, meal, &c.) falling from the highest prices.

It might appear to some quite irrelevant to allude to such subjects, but I am of opinion that the discontent among the labouring classes, if not created by the scarcity and dearness of food, has been at any rate increased by those circumstances. As I stated in a former letter, I saw no reason to doubt their being most peaceably inclined, until these recent rumours got afloat.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Hugh W. Austin, Governors Sec.

(Signed) Geo. L. Phillips, Custos, St. James's.

Capt. de Horsey to Governor Eyre.

Sir,

"Wolverene," at Jamaica, August 5, 1865.

I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I have assumed the command of the Jamaica division, rendered vacant by the death of the late Commodore Cracroft, C.B., and shall be happy to co-operate with your Excellency at all times for the good of Her Majesty's service.

2. I have further to acquaint your Excellency that the "Cadmus" proceeded at daylight this morning to visit the ports of Lucea and Montego Bay, as especially requested in your letter to Commodore Cracroft of the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Edward J. Eyre, Governor-in-Chief.

(Signed) A. M. de Horsey, Captain and Senior Officer.

Governor Eyre to Capt. de Horsey.

Sir,

King's House, August 8, 1865.

I beg to acknowledge and thank you for your communication of the 5th instant, acquainting me that in consequence of the death of the late Commodore Cracroft the command of the Jamaica division had devolved upon you, and expressing your desire at all times to co-operate with me for the good of Her Majesty's Service.

2. I have also to thank you for having despatched Her Majesty's ship "Cadmus" to visit Lucea and Montego Bay, in accordance with a request preferred in my letter of the 30th July to the late Commodore Cracroft.

3. The last accounts I have received from the parishes in which disturbances were anticipated are of a more satisfactory kind. The first week in August has passed off without any breach of the public peace, and I have every reason to hope that the precautions taken on the spot, and the visits of the "Cadmus" and "Bulldog," will prove efficacious, both in preventing any outbreak, if such should have been intended, and in allaying the apprehensions of the residents, who had become alarmed at the vague and threatening rumours in circulation with regard to some supposed insurrection movements.

I have, &c.

Capt. de Horsey, Commanding, Port Royal.

(Signed) E. Eyre.

No. 57.

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No. 57.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 288.)

SIR, Downing Street, September 8, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 198,* of 7th August, enclosing further correspondence relative to the disturbances which had been apprehended among the peasantry of St. Elizabeth and St. Ann's.

* Page 238.

I have to express my approval of the precautions which you took, and my satisfaction at learning that no outbreak occurred.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL

No. 58.

No. 58.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 207.) King's House, August 19, 1865.

(Received, September 13, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 301, October 3, 1865, page 250.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of certain minutes which have passed between the Executive Committee and myself on the subject of introducing a measure having for its object the borrowing of 250,000*l.* to be lent to the planters for the improvement of their estates, with a view to encouraging and sustaining the sugar cultivation.

Minute by Mr. Hosack, 9 May 1865.
Addenda, 9 Aug. 1865.
Minute by Gov. Eyre, 10 Aug. 1865.
Minute by Mr. Hosack, 16 Aug. 1865.
Minute by Mr. Westmorland, 16 Aug. 1865.

2. The first Minute by Mr. Hosack, dated 9th May 1865, with an Addenda, dated 9th August, was only submitted to me after the latter date. I understand that Dr. Hamilton concurred generally in the views expressed, and that Mr. Westmorland does so to.

The second Minute is my own, dated the 10th August, expressing my opinion of the project.

There are also two subsequent Minutes, one by Mr. Hosack, and one by Mr. Westmorland, both dated the 16th August.

Being written after the receipt of my Minute, they are intended to combat the objections raised, or so to modify the scheme (by taking in other properties besides sugar estates, or by confining advances to stock and moveables,) as to render it more general and of less risk.

3. I see no reason to modify the opinions expressed in my Minute.

No doubt the planters might be benefited by being enabled to obtain loans for extending cultivation or putting substantial improvements upon their properties; but what I question is the policy of any scheme of this kind being undertaken by the local Government, or the propriety of the general revenue being made a guarantee for the proposed loans.

In the event of the interest or principal not being duly paid, the Colony might find the lands or stock and other moveables unsaleable, and then be compelled either to make good the deficiency from the public purse, or to extend its expenditure and carry on the cultivation itself.

4. I have myself no faith in the resuscitation of the bye-gone prosperity and still decaying interests of the Jamaica planters through the instrumentality of any adventitious stimulus, such as a Government loan is intended to be.

My own opinion is (greatly as I regret being compelled to admit it) that Jamaica, like some of the other smaller West India islands, is in a state of transition, which no Government assistance will be able to avert; that it is, in fact, gradually passing into the hands of quite a different class of proprietors from that which held possession some thirty years ago. One half the estates then in cultivation are now either abandoned or converted into mere grazing pens. European proprietors, but above all European residents of position, education, and wealth, have dwindled down to an insignificant number; their places have not been taken by colonial-born persons of corresponding status and ability; and even now there is the greatest difficulty in adequately filling up the various offices in the State, such as Members of the Legislative Council, Members of the House of Assembly, Custodes of Parishes, Magistrates, Departmental offices, et cetera, et cetera.

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This state of things is getting worse year by year, the European element is continually decreasing, and my firm conviction is that the day will come, though it may yet be distant, when Jamaica will become little better than a second Hayti.

Even the Minutes of Messieurs Hosack and Westmorland, themselves both planters, show unmistakeably that in their opinion this relapse is taking place, though they think it may be averted by Government assistance.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure in No. 58.

MINUTE by Mr. HOSACK.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT OF ESTATES, &c., &c.

BEFORE I left office in 1860, I contemplated introducing a measure similar in principle to the British Acts for the drainage and improvement of lands; such an Act was not so necessary then as it is now. The unfortunate attempt (so far) to make cotton one of our great staples, renders it still more necessary to stimulate and encourage an increase in our *established* staples, particularly under the adverse influences of low prices and long continued droughts.

2. Many estates in Jamaica could double and treble, and even quadruple their crops, with the assistance of improved machinery, portable tramways, wire fences, &c., and would if circumstances permitted.

3. There are about 300 sugar estates in Jamaica now remaining out of 700 once in cultivation.

4. These three hundred with stock on them are worth at the lowest estimate one million five hundred thousand pounds at the *present reduced* rates of value, say,—

100 estates at 7,000*l.*
100 „ „ 5,000*l.* } 1,500,000*l.*
100 „ „ 3,000*l.*

Many of these estates have been improved to the utmost by wealthy proprietors in England chiefly. I will, however, suppose that at least 100 estates require to be *improved* at an average cost of 1,500*l.* each, and that 100 require advances to enable them to recover the loss from the continued drought to the extent of 1,000*l.* each.

5. Supposing then that estates requiring these advances should be made to pay 9 per cent. per annum for them (1 per cent. more than the present bank rate) to the island, and guarantee to the island a prior lien (first mortgage) on these estates, on condition that the island would guarantee the repayment of the money required in 25 or 30 years; by which time slavery would be abolished all over the world. 6 per cent. would pay the ordinary interest if invested the *whole time* at that rate, and 3 per cent. would repay the principal, *and also pay* a *commissioner* and officers to carry out the objects of the Act, the primary objects of which would be to leave as little to the will of such commissioner as possible. Mortgagees would in many cases refuse to allow a prior lien (first mortgage) perhaps, but others would consent to this condition, provided they continued to receive the consignments, with which Government would have nothing to do. I have no doubt 500,000*l.* would be got for such purposes on the credit of the island at 6 per cent. for an *undisturbed* investment for 30 years or more.

6. Many of the penalties and provisions of the Drainage Acts would come into play in any Act passed for the purposes above stated. An Act authorizing advances under the conditions and for the purposes I have indicated, might be justified on the same grounds on which the Irish Drainage Acts have been based; and also on the fortuitous circumstances springing from *external* events connected with the abandonment of slavery and the necessity for upholding agriculture here, and with it the revenue and credit of the Island until slavery shall have ceased; and lastly on account of the long continued droughts in 1864 and 1865.

7. To my mind this scheme seems quite feasible and safe, if worked and watched by an upright high-minded commissioner, independent of the local government under a well framed Act.

8. Such an Act would operate as much in favour of the workers for wages, and of all correlative interests, as for the agricultural. *Above all it would impose no taxes on any one,* while the well-being of the island would be more in its own hands than in those of mortgagees and banks.

9th May 1865. WM. HOSACK.

9th August 1865.

I AM stongly of opinion that no time should be lost in preparing and introducing a measure into the Assembly with a view to secure at least one of the objects referred to in the above minute, viz., the *permanent improvement* of landed estates; more particularly as money is now very abundant in England, and can be had, I am informed on good authority, on very easy terms.

WM. HOSACK.

MINUTE by GOVERNOR EYRE.

I HAVE read over carefully Mr. Hosack's Minute.

2. Without having the Acts to refer to, my impression is that the Acts for draining or warping lands do not proceed upon the principle of lending money to landowners to invest as they like in any kind of improvements, but simply compel persons having lands within a certain area to share in the general expense of one great undertaking for draining or warping the whole, in some proportion according to acreage, or according to the amount of benefit to be derived by the particular lands. The Acts, I believe, make the lands liable for these charges, whether the owners wished to join in the drainage or warpage schemes or not.

3. However I may be wrong in my impressions.

4. I do not doubt the capabilities of the estates in Jamaica to produce two, three, or even four times their present produce, but I question greatly this large increase of productiveness being brought about by a mere loan of one-fourth the value of the estate, to be spent in improved machinery, portable tramways, wire fences, &c., &c.

5. If planters could afford to pay nine per cent. for loans with even a reasonable prospect of its resulting in such an augmentation of their annual produce, I cannot imagine there would be any difficulty in their obtaining the loans through private agency; there is always money forthcoming for any schemes which afford good hopes of a successful issue.

6. My own impression is (though it may be wrong) that one great cause of the difficulty in the planters obtaining money on loan for the improvement of their estates is, that this has already been done in former years and found not to answer, or the planters have failed in meeting the interest or principal when due.

7. This has certainly occurred in other West Indian islands, when the Home Government lent money on the ground of the desolations caused by hurricanes or earthquakes.

8. I am not sure how many estates are free from mortgage, but I apprehend that where they are not the mortgagees would not consent to further loans being obtained which should constitute a first and preferable lien on the properties as against their own mortgages.

9. Mr. Hosack does not so state it, but I gather from the terms of his Minute, that he proposes the Colony should guarantee both interest and principal.

10. I do not believe that a quarter of a million loan could be obtained under six per cent. without the guarantee of Great Britain, which never could be obtained.

11. If a loan is to be obtained under the guarantee of the whole Colony, upon what plea could its appropriation be confined to one class consisting of some 300 individuals? Why might not the pen-keepers, the coffee growers, or even the small settlers claim to have loans made rateably to the value of their properties?

12. Money is no doubt plentiful in England and can readily be obtained on good English securities, or even for colonies that are new and rising, but I apprehend the same facility would not be found to exist when Jamaica were named as the place for which the loan was wanted. The nature of the local institutions, the uncertain and not to be depended upon action of the Legislature, and the absence of all power of control on the part of the local executive, would prove a great bar to obtaining the loan required.

13. I have also great doubts whether Her Majesty's Government would sanction the risk and the responsibility proposed being thrown upon the Colony under all the circumstances of the case.

14. If there is any real desire to try whether the scheme suggested could be carried into practical effect, I think that this most important point (that of the assent or disallowance of the Queen's Government to the principle involved) should be first ascertained.

10th August 1865. (Signed) E. EYRE.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. HOSACK.

A reference to Imperial Acts will show, that large advances were made out of the British Treasury for the permanent improvement of settled estates in Great Britain and Ireland to the owners thereof on mortgage security, under 5 & 6 Vict. c. 89, and other amending and extending Acts each succeeding year, for many years afterwards; by parity of reasoning therefore, it seems to me that a similar policy should be allowed and carried out in Jamaica, more particularly in view of the fact that Jamaica estates have in the last 30 years, been passing through an ordeal which has ruined many estates, and threatens to ruin most, if not all, of the comparatively few remaining, while estates in Great Britain have passed no ordeal whatever.

2. It appears to have been a primary purpose of the Imperial Legislature to provide for the cases and requirements of settled estates, which from pre-existing charges and the complications of title in which they were tied up, could not without special enabling enactments, have participated in the intended benefits.

3. So in Jamaica, mortgaged or otherwise encumbered estates should, by special enactments for the due arrangement or disposal or suspension of prior claims, be brought within the proposed relief.

I think it right that a state should make every effort to sustain its staple productions, when (as Jamaica estates now are) languishing and threatened with extinction as the effect of causes of depression, not peculiar only, but in truth without parallel; and these efforts should, it appears to me, be followed up with more than ordinary vigour, until slavery (now on its last legs) be abolished everywhere, and until we have passed through our present unprofitable state of transition.

4. But if the Jamaica Government confines itself to routine and superficial legislation, then I fear a valuable Colony will slip away into a state of wilderness and barbarism.

5. The principal Imperial Acts might, with the amendments, be altered and modified to suit Jamaica. The objects of the Imperial Acts might all be incorporated with the objects suitable for Jamaica estates.

16th August 1865. (Signed) WM. HOSACK.

MINUTE by Mr. WESTMORLAND.

The difficulty of obtaining capital for the cultivation of sugar and other staples in Jamaica, has been gradually increasing, and has now become so great as to seriously threaten the existence of very many of the 300 sugar estates now remaining.

2. This difficulty has been principally occasioned by the unprofitable character of English investments in sugar estates since the island has been subjected to the unequal competition with Cuba and Porto Rico, the former of which places since that event has increased its crops from 100,000 to 500,000 tons of sugar, and where capital so employed yields 15 to 20 per cent. interest.

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3. But the abolition of slavery in the Spanish islands seems to be not very far off, and the result of the American war must hasten this event, and there seems now to be some prospect ere long, that all sugar-producing countries will have to work with free labourers.

4. If possible, therefore, it would be most desirable, not only for the planters themselves, but also for the interests of the mass of the population, and the island generally, that a cultivation which causes the annual disbursement of some 600,000*l.* should be upheld, and failing other means, the Government should step in, and provided it can be done with little or no risk, lend its aid at a moderate rate of interest towards the upholding and encouragement of what has been proved to be the most suitable product the Colony can export.

5. And this should be done before it is too late and whilst we are enabled to pay punctually the annual expenditure of an island expensive to govern, owing to its great extent and its limited population, whilst we meet regularly the interest on our debt of about 850,000*l.*, and raise an annual sinking fund for the extinguishing of about three-fourths of this amount.

6. If this opportunity be neglected and help delayed until the reverse of what now exists overtakes us, then it will be too late to prevent Jamaica from relapsing into a condition fraught with most serious consequences.

7. But whilst counselling the assistance of Government being afforded in keeping up and restoring cultivation, I would by no means advocate such a measure unless accompanied by sound and wholesome restrictions, and at the same time made applicable to other descriptions of property besides sugar estates. Difficult as is at present the sale of land in this country (and it is the circumstance of its inconvertibility into money and its not bearing a marketable value that prevents capitalists coming forward to the aid of its proprietors by taking land as a security) there is still on each property in cultivation even now a large amount of stock and moveables found readily saleable, but upon which advances cannot be obtained in the island.

Government would run no risk in coming to the aid of planters under proper regulations to this extent at all events, and if moderate advances would not be conceded on the lands, the advance on stock and moveables at least would prove of some assistance.

8. In this and other West India colonies the British Government have sanctioned the raising of large loans for immigration purposes, taking as a security for repayment the credit of the colonies and a lien on the planter's estates or trusting to their individual ability to repay annually a portion, with an additional security of a tax on the produce of the colony in which estates are so benefited. A loan of money to enable proprietors to employ native labour ought certainly to be looked upon as favourably as that employed in importing labour, provided sufficient security be furnished for its repayment.

9. Unless the island, by means of its credit, can encourage the cultivation of its soil when other sources from which capital is obtainable are wanting, the large properties will gradually be abandoned, the educated classes will either leave or cease to possess influence, and the employment of the land will degenerate into a system of small holdings, destructive in our social circumstances to all progress in civilization, and the collection of a sufficient revenue to carry on the Government in a substantial and useful way will be rendered practically impossible.

16th August 1865. (Signed) HENRY WESTMORLAND.

No. 59.

No. 59.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 301.)

SIR, Downing Street, October 3, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 207,* of the 19th of August, enclosing copies of Minutes which have passed between your Executive Committee and yourself on the subject of raising a loan, to be applied in making advances to the planters in Jamaica, for the improvement of their estates, and for the encouragement of the sugar cultivation.

* Page 247.

2. I entirely agree in the views you express on this subject.

It appears unnecessary for me to reply to the arguments by which this recommendation is supported, as, I think, they are sufficiently met by your Minute of the 10th of August. But with reference to the loans of public money sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government for the promotion of immigration, I may observe that this was done in necessary conformity to conditions other than economic, because justice and humanity demanded that the immigration of ignorant and half civilized races should be conducted under the control of Her Majesty's Government, and not left to the unfettered operation of commercial interests; and although being conducted by Government agency it was assisted by public money, care was at the same time taken that at least two-thirds of the public money so employed should be raised by taxes falling upon the employers of labour.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 60. No. 60.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 209.) King's House, August 21, 1865.
Received, September 13, 1865,
(Answered, No. 316, October 19, 1865, page 254.)

SIR,

By the 22 Victoria, Cap. 1. Sect. 71. provision is made that a sum equal to 20*s.* per head for all immigrants (of whatever kind) in the Colony shall be annually set apart from the general revenue, to be invested for the purpose of creating a fund to pay the back passages of East India and Chinese immigrants, or to grant them a bounty in commutation if they elect to stay in the Colony.

The amount thus payable comes to about 6,000*l.* per annum.

Agent Gen. to Sec. of Ex. Com. Dec. 6, 1864.

2. I append a letter from the Agent General of Immigration, showing approximately the number of coolies in the Colony who would be entitled to back passages, and the probable sums which would be required, and the dates at which such sums would be wanted to meet the anticipated payments for back passages or bounties.

3. From this statement it appears that about 47,000*l.* may be required altogether, of which about 20,000*l.* may be required in 1870–71, about 22,000*l.* in 1872–73, and the remaining 5,000*l.* at some indefinite period, if certain deserters turn up and work out the time they have forfeited by their desertion, or not at all if such deserters do not turn up and claim back passages or bounty.

Statement of Immigrants' Colonization and Return Passage Fund.

4. I enclose a return showing that at the present moment the fund already invested on account of this service amounts to 22,351*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*

This with the interest accruing (20,273*l.*, being at 6 per cent.) would amount to nearly 30,000*l.* in 1870. The interest accruing in the Colony is remitted to England and invested in the 3 per cent. stock. There is now 1,063*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* about to be remitted for the purpose, which, with the previous remittances of interest, make altogether 2,078*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* invested in 3 per cent.

5. As there is now no immigration going on, and as the Colonists have suffered very severely of late years from the continued low prices and from bad seasons, it would be a great relief to them if Her Majesty's Government would sanction the suspension for a few years of the transfer from the general revenue of the 6,000*l.* annually due under the 22 Victoria, Cap. 1. to the Colonization Fund. By thus releasing a considerable sum appropriated from the General Revenue to a specific purpose, so as to render it available for general purposes, relief to a considerable extent would be obtained for the overburthened finances of the Colony.

I would, however, recommend that this suspension should never be for more than one year at a time, so that the appropriation could then be resumed again, whenever it is thought necessary to do so to complete the sum likely to be required on account of back passages or bounties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 60.

Encl. 1 in No. 60.

The AGENT GENERAL of IMMIGRATION to the Secretary of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SIR,

Immigration Office, December 6, 1864.

IN reference to your letter No. 1,654, dated 2nd September, and in continuation of mine to you, dated 18th October last, I beg to state that on referring back to the period of the last immigration from 1844 to 1854, the island was visited with two epidemics, cholera and small-pox, which accounts for the great mortality among the coolies during that time.

I cannot at present give an accurate estimate (but only an approximation to it) of the number who are likely to come forward and claim back passages; but it must be borne in mind, that money will also have to be provided to pay the bounty to those who elect to remain and settle in the Island.

Of the 4,635 East Indians landed and distributed, there are now about 3,700 alive on the estates, and there are 412 deserters missing.

JAMAICA.

If it be reckoned as a fair calculation, that the births will be equal to the deaths, up to the termination of the ten years' industrial residence, and the number of back passages asked for will equal those who will accept the bounty, the amount to be provided will be as follows:—

The average rate of back passage paid for return coolies in 1853 and 1854 was 13*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, and the bounty paid was 10*l.*, making an average of 11*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

Therefore the sum to be provided according to this estimate, will be on 3,700 coolies 42,781*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*

And as the 412 deserters may turn up some day, a further sum should be provided for them, say - - - - - - - - 4,762*l.* 15*s.* 0*d.*

Making a total of 47,544*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*

The monies will be required in the following years, vizt.:—

In 1870, to send back and pay the bounty on	460 coolies	-	£5,318 15 0
1871,	1,266 „	-	14,638 2 6
1872,	1,348 „	-	15,586 5 0
1873,	626 „	-	7,238 2 6
	3,700		£42,781 5 0

I have, &c.

W. R. MYERS, Secretary to Executive Committee. True copy. (Signed) W. M. ANDERSON, A.G.I.

Encl. 2 in No. 60.

Enclosure 2 in No. 60.

JAMAICA.

STATEMENT of the Immigrants' Colonization and Return Passage Fund—22 Vict. cap. 1. sec. 72.

Date of Investment.	Nature of Security.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Annual Amount appropriable and invested.
				£ *s.* *d.*
24 November 1862.	Immigration Loan Act, 1858.	Six per cent. per ann.	30th June and 31st December.	626 0 0
„ Ditto „	Ditto			2,881 0 0
„ Ditto „	Ditto			4,631 0 0
20 November 1863.	Loan, 26 Vict. s. 2, c. 20.			6,096 0 0
3 December 1864.	Loan Act 27 Vict. c. 24.			6,039 0 0
Total invested in island securities - - - - -			- - -	£20,273 0 0
Interest due and invested,—			£ *s.* *d.*	
30th June 1863 - - -			292 19 6	
31st December 1863 - - -			292 4 9	
30th June 1864 - - -			427 0 4	
			£1,012 4 7	
Less charges of remittance and investment - -			11 10 5	
			£1,000 14 2	
Add dividends to 5th October 1864 - - -			14 1 11	
Total invested in three per cents. consols - - - -			£1,014 16 1	
Vide Statement No. 2 - - - -			- - -	1,014 16 1
Total invested - - - - - - - -			- - -	£21,287 16 1
Interest due, but not invested,—				
On island securities to 31 December 1864 -			455 16 1	
„ ditto „ 30 June 1865 - -			608 3 9	
				1,063 19 10
Total at credit, 21st August 1865 - - - - -			- - -	£22,351 15 11

HUGH W. AUSTIN,
Receiver-General.

Public Treasury, Kingston,
21st August 1865.

JAMAICA. JAMAICA.

(No. 2.)—STATEMENT of the several Investments of Interest accrued and remitted to Messrs. Thomson, Hankey, and Co., for and on account of the Immigrants Colonization and Return Passage Fund, 22 Vict. c. 1. sec. 72.

Interest due.	Amount of Interest.	Charges on Remittance and Investment.	Date of Investment.	Amount of New 3 per Cents. purchased.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
30 June 1863 - - -	292 19 6	3 7 3	16 December 1863 -	319 2 8
31 December 1863 - -	292 4 9	3 7 2	7 June 1864 - -	323 13 6
30 June 1864 - -	427 0 4	4 16 0	30 November 1864 -	476 8 2
	£1,012 4 7	11 10 5		1,119 4 4
Dividends due,—				
5 April 1864, on 319*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*	4 12 5		12 April 1864 - -	5 0 2
5 October „ „ 647*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*	9 9 6		19 October 1864 -	10 14 6
	£1,026 6 6			
		11 10 5		
Less - - -	11 10 5			
Total - - -	£1,014 16 1	Represented by - - - -		£1,134 19 0

N.B.—Dividends due 5th April 1865, in the hands of Messrs. Thomson, Hankey, and Co., awaiting final instructions in consequence of the charges of the office of Receiver-General.

HUGH W. AUSTIN,
Receiver-General.

Public Treasury, Kingston,
21st October 1865.

No. 61.

No. 61.

COPY of a DESPATCH from G. W. ROMAINE, Esq., to the UNDER SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES.

SIR, Admiralty, September 2, 1865.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith for the information of Mr. Secretary Cardwell, a copy of a letter dated the 8th ultimo, No. 5, from Captain de Horsey, of the "Wolverine," and of its enclosure from Captain Wake, of the "Devastation" respecting a feeling of disaffection said to exist amongst the peasantry of the western portion of the Island of Jamaica.

I am, &c.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies. (Signed) G. W. ROMAINE.

Enclosure in No. 61.

Encl. in No. 61.

A. F. R. DE HORSEY to the SECRETARY of the ADMIRALTY.

SIR, "Wolverine," Jamaica, August 8, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a correspondence I have received relative to a state of disaffection which is said to exist amongst the peasantry of the western portion of this Island, and acquaint you that, at the earnest solicitations of H. E. the Governor in Chief, the "Bulldog" and "Cadmus" have been despatched to visit the ports of Black River, Savannah-la-Mar, Lucea, and Montego Bay.

From the letter I have received from Captain Wake at Black River, it would seem that the disaffection is confined to a very small portion of the community, and I cannot think that any consequences at all serious are likely to transpire.

I have, &c.

The Secretary of the Admiralty. (Signed) A. F. R. DE HORSEY,
Captain and Senior Officer.

Captain WAKE to Commodore CRACROFT.

SIR, H. M. S. "Bulldog," Black River, August 3, 1865.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I anchored off Black River Town on Monday at 4 p.m., and that evening, in compliance with your orders, exercised firing blank cartridge, as directed.

I found that not only our arrival was generally expected, but that the particular object of our mission was also perfectly well known to everyone, black and white. Hitherto everything has been perfectly quiet, and I see no reason to apprehend that it will be otherwise in future.

I have been in constant communication with Mr. Salmon, the Custos, and with other leading people in the neighbourhood, among others with the Dr. McCarthy referred to by Mr. Salmon in his letter to the Governor.

JAMAICA. It is not to be doubted that among the negroes in the interior are many idle and dissolute persons who have been rendered discontented and ripe for mischief by the scarcity consequent on the last drought, which has compelled them either to work or go short of food—a disagreeable alternative, which they have endeavoured to avoid by the industrious dissemination of absurd and lying reports, (to the effect that money, said by them to have been sent by the Queen in answer to their late petition for relief has been unjustly withheld and spent by the white authorities, that it is the intention of the Governor to enslave them again, and that the rise in the price of clothing and provisions is owing to the dishonesty of the whites,) with a view to exciting disturbances, and then bettering their position by the plunder of the white proprietors. The currency of mischievous reports among such an ignorant, thoughtless, and credulous people has not been without effect, but I cannot find out that there is any ground whatever for believing in a preconcerted rising of even that small portion of the population which is discontented.

It is rumoured that on Sunday, the 5th inst., some demonstrations will be made, and Mr. Salmon has requested me to remain over that day; therefore (though without attaching any importance to this report) I have decided on remaining here till Monday morning, when I propose to go to Montego Bay, where more discontent is said to exist than at Savanna-la-Mar or Lucea, taking those ports on my way back.

I have, &c.

Commodore Cracroft, C.B.,
Senior Officer, Jamaica.

(Signed) C. WAKE,
Captain.

No. 62.

No. 62.

COPY of a DESPATCH from G. W. ROMAINE, Esq., to the UNDER SECRETARY of STATE for the COLONIES.

Admiralty, September 13, 1865.

SIR, (Received, Sept. 14, 1865.)

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of Mr. Secretary Cardwell, that the senior officer of Her Majesty's ships at Jamaica, in a letter dated the 22d ultimo, reports that the measures taken in sending the "Bulldog" and "Cadmus" to visit the outports in the disaffected parishes of the Island, appear to have resulted in effectually quelling any lawless movement that might have been intended by the peasantry.

I am, &c.

The Under Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

(Signed) G. W. ROMAINE.

No. 63.

No. 63.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 316.)

SIR, Downing Street, October 19, 1865.

* Page 251. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 209,* of the 21st of August, in which you request permission to suspend for a few years the annual payment from the general revenue to the Immigrants Colonization and Back Passage Fund required under the provisions of the Act 22 Vict. cap. 1.

I enclose a copy of a Report which I have received from the Emigration Commissioners on this subject.

I have to authorize the remission of the payment for the year 1865, and I shall be prepared to consider a similar remission in 1867 if the state of the fund and the estimated claims upon it shall justify that measure.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Encl. in No. 63.

Enclosure in No. 63.

MR. WALCOTT to SIR FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart.

SIR, Emigration Office, Oct. 5, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of the 20th ultimo, with the copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, on the subject of the suspension for a few years of the transfer of 6,000*l.* per annum from the general revenue to the Immigrants Colonization and Return Passage Fund. This fund was created by the 71st section of the Colonial Act, 22 Vict. cap. 1. for the purposes of providing back passages for Indian immigrants, or for the permanent colonization of any class of immigrants introduced at the public expense.

2. By this Act the Governor is directed annually to set apart a sum from the general revenue equal to 20*s.* a head, to be invested at interest in the island or in the public funds of this country. The

annual amount now payable under this enactment is, the Governor states, about 6,000*l.* per annum. But as immigration into Jamaica has ceased since the beginning of March 1863, when the last body of coolies was landed, and as the Colony has suffered severely of late years from bad seasons and the low prices of its produce, Governor Eyre points out that it would be a great relief to the overburdened finances of the Colony if this transfer of 6,000*l.* per annum from the general revenue were suspended for a few years. He recommends, however, that such suspension should never be for more than one year at a time.

3. From the enclosures which accompany the Governor's Despatch, it appears that there are now about 3,700 coolies alive who may become entitled to back passages, besides 412 deserters who are missing, and who, if they should reappear, would have to work out the time they had forfeited by their desertion before they could claim back passages. According to the calculations of Mr. Anderson, the immigation agent, to which I have nothing to object, it would require 47,544*l.* to provide back passages on bounty for the whole number of coolies, including the 412 deserters ; but if the deserters be excluded 42,781*l.* would be sufficient. This sum would be payable at the periods shown in the following table:—

Year.	Number of Coolies.	Amount required.		
		£	*s.*	*d.*
1870 - -	460	5,318	15	0
1871 - -	1,266	14,638	2	6
1872 - -	1,348	15,586	5	0
1873 - -	626	7,238	2	6
Total -	3,700	42,781	5	0

4. From this it appears that in 1870 and 1871 about 20,000*l.* may be required, and about 22,800*l.* in 1872 and 1873; at the beginning of which latter year all the claims to back passages by the coolies now in the island (except deserters) will have accrued.

5. There is at present invested on account of this service 22,351*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*, which, with the accruing interest at 6 per cent., would in 1870 amount, as the Governor states, to nearly 30,000*l.*

6. If the scheme were to continue on its existing footing, it would produce at the end of 1870 a gross total of upwards of 70,000*l.*, irrespective of contributions of diminished amount from the colonial revenue for the years 1871 and 1872. These might ultimately raise the aggregate assets to nearly 75,000*l.* But as this is greatly in excess of what is needed it seems to me that the Governor's recommendation for an occasional suspension of the annual transfer of 6,000*l.* from the public revenue to the Immigrants Colonization and Back Passage Fund may properly be sanctioned. I would suggest, therefore, that the transfer for the alternate years 1865, 1867, 1869, and 1871 may be suspended. The effect of this would be to afford relief to the extent of about 21,000*l.*, irrespective of interest.

7. I append a table showing the result of such an alteration of the present scheme. From this it will be seen that at the end of 1870 there will be in hand about 49,000*l.*, whereas the gross claims, exclusive of deserters, would, as before mentioned, be only 42,781*l.*, or if, which is highly improbable, the whole of the deserters come forward, 47,544*l.*

8. This scheme is of course based on the assumption of the correctness of the various statements as to the number of emigrants and amounts in hand given in the Governor's Despatch, which I have not the means of verifying. But as my interpretation of the figures in the Despatch may possibly in some particulars be somewhat different from what they are intended to convey, it would be desirable that the Table I have submitted should be carefully reviewed in the Colony before it is acted upon. I would more especially point out that previous to any interference with the established contributions from the Colonial Revenues, it should be clearly shown that the proposed relaxation will not prejudice any of the more general objects contemplated in that provision of the 71st Section of the Act which relates to the permanent colonization of any class of emigrants introduced at the public expense.

9. This being a matter of finance, Mr. Cardwell may possibly wish to refer it to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury. But should the suspension of the annual payments from the general revenue be sanctioned, it would require, I apprehend, a local enactment to give effect to the decision, as the present colonial law renders annual transfers imperative on the Colonial Government.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., &c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. WALCOTT.

Year.	Amount said to be in hand in the Colony on January 1.	Amount in hand in England on account of interest on January 1.	Total assets on January 1.	Amount contributed from Revenue in the Year.	Interest at 6 per cent. accruing in Colony and sent home for Investment at 3 per cent.	Interest at 3 per cent. accruing in England on invested Interest.	Total Amount on December 31 in each Year.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1866	(*a*) 20,273	2,078	22,351	6,000	1,216	62	29,629
1867	26,273	3,356	29,629	nil.	1,576	100	31,305
1868	26,273	5,032	31,305	6,000	1,576	150	39,031
1869	32,273	6,758	39,031	nil.	1,936	202	41,169
1870	32,273	8,896	41,169	6,000	1,936	266	49,371

(*a*) Amount taken from the Governor's Despatch, exclusive of any contribution for 1865.

JAMAICA.

No. 64.

No. 64.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 210.) King's House, August 22, 1865.
(Received, September 13, 1865.
(Answered, No. 294, September 19, 1865, page 260.)

SIR,

* Page 226. IN my Despatch No. 169* of the 6th ultimo, I informed you that the local Government attached so much value and importance to the admirable reply of Her Majesty to certain poor people of St. Ann's, and considered the very judicious advice therein given as so well suited to the entire community, that it was thought right to make the reply publicly known through the medium of the newspapers and the "Gazette."

2. It was subsequently considered, both by myself and the Executive Committee, that as there are so many districts in which the newspapers are not seen, it would be Enclosure 1. better to print the reply in the form of handbills, and have it distributed and posted in all parts of the Colony.

3. This was accordingly done, and 50,000 copies were thus circulated by means of the custodes, the justices, the ministers of religion of all denominations, the inspectors of police, and other persons.

4. I am happy to say that with very few exceptions all the parties invited to do so have, I believe, cordially co-operated with the Government in making the Queen's advice as widely known as possible; and I do not doubt but that it will have a good effect in removing from the minds of the peasantry much misapprehension which they have either been led to entertain from ignorance, or which has been instilled into their minds by mischievous persons.

Enclosure 2. 5. Copies of the only refusals to circulate the reply which have yet reached me are herewith attached.

I regret to say they all emanate from ministers of the Baptist denomination residing in the parish of St. James, one of the three districts where disaffection has recently been reported to exist, and in which it was thought prudent to take precautionary measures to guard against any possible aggressions, as reported in other despatches.

I append a copy of my reply to the letters of Messieurs Henderson, Dendy, Reid, Hewitt, and Maxwell.

6. I need only remark, further, that some of the gentlemen who now decline to circulate the Queen's advice took a prominent part in the meeting held at Montego Bay on the subject of Dr. Underhill's letter, and the resolutions of which meeting were * Page 197. transmitted in my Despatch No. 137* of 6th June last.

7. It is quite clear that if the ministers of religion residing amongst an ignorant, debased, and exciteable coloured population take upon themselves to endorse and reiterate assertions such as those in Dr. Underhill's letter, to the effect that the people are starving, ragged, or naked; that their addiction to thieving is the result of extreme poverty; that all this arises from the taxation being too heavy; that such taxation is unjust upon the coloured population; that they are refused just tribunals and denied political rights; then such ministers do their best not only to make the labourer discontented, but to stimulate sedition and resistance to the laws and constituted authorities. Nor should I be surprised if in the districts where such a course is taken a refusal to pay the taxes, and consequent disturbances in enforcing them, should be the result.

8. In pleasing contrast to the communications from Messieurs Henderson, Dendy, Enclosure 3. Hewitt, Reid, and Maxwell, I append a copy of a letter from the Reverend Samuel Jones in the parish of Metcalfe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 4. P.S.—I have just had put into my hands by the Baron Von Ketelhodt an inflammatory address (of which I enclose a copy), which has been printed and circulated amongst the people of St. Thomas-in-the-East (of which district the baron is custos), prior to a meeting which has lately taken place there.

This document shows the manner in which a few evil-disposed agitators get up public meetings in support of Dr. Underhill, and the spirit in which the promoters prepare the populace beforehand.

The Baron informs me that he has good reason to believe that George Wm. Gordon, one of the members of the House of Assembly, either wrote or was concerned in getting up the printed address now forwarded.

I also append an extract from one of the local newspapers, professing to give an account of the recent opening of a new church in the district of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and the description of which, if correct, contrasts strangely with the allegations of extreme poverty of the peasantry at large. JAMAICA. Enclosure 5.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 64.

Encl. 1 in No 64.

THE QUEEN'S ADVICE.

Gov. Sec. Office, July 5, 1865.

VARIOUS meetings having recently taken place in several parishes of this Colony, in reference to the condition of the working classes, and the Governor having reason to fear that many of the peasantry are under considerable misapprehension as to the relative advantages they enjoy, or the disadvantages they labour under, in Jamaica, in comparison with similar classes in other countries, his Excellency has directed the following reply, addressed by the Queen's directions, to a memorial transmitted to Her Majesty by certain poor people of the parish of St. Ann, to be published for general information.

By command,
(Signed) HUGH W. AUSTIN, Gov. Sec.

Then follows copy of Despatch from the Right Honourable Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Eyre, No. 222, of 14th June 1865, which will be found printed at page .

Enclosure 2 in No. 64.

Encl. 2 in No. 64.

The Reverends Messieurs HENDERSON, DENDY, and REID to Mr. MYERS.

SIR, Montego Bay, August 4, 1865.

WE have received your circular of the 25th of July, stating that 200 copies of a publication containing the Queen's advice, as stated in a Despatch from the Right Honourable Mr. Cardwell, by desire of Her Majesty, in reply to the memorial of certain poor persons in the parish of St. Ann's, had been forwarded to our address, requesting us to circulate the same.

2. We deeply regret that we cannot comply with the request of his Excellency. Not having seen the petition of "the poor people of St. Ann's," we are unable to judge of the suitability of the reply to it. In this part of the Island the people have met to complain of social and political grievances, and to pray that a commission may be appointed to inquire into those grievances. To them, therefore, the letter of Mr. Cardwell has no meaning. We may mention that a copy of the publication, as well as another placard headed, "The Queen to the Peasantry of Jamaica," has been extensively circulated and posted within the walls of the Court-house, and the effect has been to produce an amount of irritation most painful to observe.

3. The people are also greatly annoyed that reports have been circulated reflecting on their loyalty to the Queen and the constituted authorities. We can assure his Excellency, that though the people are suffering from deep poverty arising in most cases from an inability to obtain work, there is not the least fear that they will do anything that can by any possibility be construed into a desire to break the laws of the Colony. A more peaceable or loyal people are not to be found throughout Her Majesty's dominions than are the peasantry of the parish of St. James, and we deeply regret that reports have been circulated calculated deeply to injure and grieve them.

4. We must also be permitted to state that we think it anything but wise to have supplied the volunteers with ball cartridge, as we are credibly informed has been the case.

5. We shall feel obliged if you will place this communication before his Excellency, as it is to us always a matter of sorrow not to be able to comply with any request made by his Excellency.

We have, &c.
(Signed) J. E. HENDERSON.
WALTER DENDY.
JAMES REID.

W. R. Myers, Esq.
&c. &c.

The Reverend Mr. HEWETT to Mr. MYERS.

SIR, Mount Carey, Montego Bay, August 9, 1865.

Will you be good enough to inform his Excellency the Governor that I am sorry I cannot comply with his request in regard to the "Queen's Advice" to certain poor of the parish of St. Ann.

I do not feel it right to circulate these papers, because I think the "advice" is not intended for or applicable to the masses of the people, and, to use a mild term, is irritating to those for whom it was not specially addressed.

2. I am glad to be in a position to assure the Governor that in this neighbourhood the people never were more quiet and peaceably disposed than at the present time. Why ships of war have been sent round to some of the ports the people in the mountains cannot understand. Her Majesty's subjects in this part of the parish are as ever both faithful and loyal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD HEWETT.

W. R. Myers, Esq.

JAMAICA.

Mr. MAXWELL to the GOVERNOR.

Sir, Shortwood, Montego Bay P.O., August 19, 1865.

As one who is desirous of doing all he can to serve his country I very much regret that I cannot comply with the request contained in the circular respecting the "Queen's Advice," sent me according to your order by the clerk of the Executive Committee.

2. My reasons for declining to distribute this reply of Her Majesty amongst the people are the following:

1. It is not applicable to the circumstances of the peasantry in this district.
2. Even if it were I could not agree with the issuing of a reply to the petition for aid in their distress of a few poor people of one small locality of the country as a proclamation or "advice" from Her Majesty the Queen to all the labouring people thereof;
3. Still less can I agree with such a step when the petition which occasioned that reply is withheld from the public; and,
4. From my knowledge of the present state and circumstances of the country, especially in connexion with its labouring population, I cannot feel it right to take part in any act that bears upon the face of it, as this so plainly and unmistakeably does, the appearance of a heartless mockery of the people's sufferings.

3. Being thus induced to refuse compliance with your request, I have directed the parcels containing the papers to be returned to you per post, deeming this more preferable to keeping them without distribution, the purpose for which they were published, as they might be sent to some other district, or to some one else in this who may be likely to carry out your intention.

4. I may further state to your Excellency, that as one so closely connected with the people I am sorely pained by the reflections which are being cast upon their unquestionable and unimpeachable loyalty by the false and foolish or malicious rumours that are in circulation respecting a disposition on their part to rebel against the Government, and the consequent sending of vessels of war to different ports in this part of the Island. Speaking from personal observation and experience, I can confidently assure your Excellency that the people in this neighbourhood were never more disposed to peace, and to loyalty to the Government, than they are at the present time, and I trust and believe that you will soon see the needlessness and groundlessness, as far at least as the poor calumniated people are concerned, of this alarm and precaution.

5. We all hope and long to see a better and more prosperous state of things in connexion with all the interests of this Colony, and are earnestly labouring, some at least, for it; but I believe all desire to bring this about by lawful and proper means, and in an orderly and honourable manner; and it is therefore with deep sorrow that I have heard of such steps having been taken by the authorities in some parts of the country as cannot fail to irritate the people, and perhaps drive them to some improper conduct, which I trust they will all have strength and common sense enough scrupulously to refrain from.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency the Governor. (Signed) JAMES MAXWELL.

Mr. JORDON to the Reverend Messieurs HENDERSON, DENDY, and REID.

Reverend Gentlemen, Gov. Sec. Office, August 17, 1865.

I am commanded by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant addressed to Mr. Myers, and to request you will be so good as to hand over to the custos of St. James the circulars which you decline to circulate, containing the advice of your Sovereign, and which, though originating in a memorial from the poor people of St. Ann's, is equally as applicable and equally as sound advice to the parishioners of St. James or any other parish in the Island.

2. I am further to state that if such advice had been more frequently given before by those who undertake to guide and teach the people, their condition at the present moment would probably have been much better.

I have, &c.

The Rev. Messrs. (Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
J. P. Henderson, Walter Dendy, and James Reid. Gov. Sec.

Enclosure 3 in No. 64.

Encl. 3 in No. 64.

The Reverend S. JONES to Governor EYRE.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, Annotto Bay, August 7, 1865.

To allow me most cordially to thank you for sending 200 copies of the "Queen's Advice" to me to distribute among my congregations. I now have the pleasure to do this in my own behalf, and also in behalf of my congregation at Annotto Bay, and have no doubt also but my congregation at Buff Bay will be of the same mind. When first I saw the document in the "Gazette" by authority, I at once saw its great value, and its almost real identity with my own teachings on such matters, that I publicly read it, and commented upon it, on Sunday, yesterday four week, 9th July 1865.

Should you have a few more of them I could distribute them to advantage.

Wishing your Excellency's administration all possible success.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL JONES,

To his Excelleney the Governor. Baptist Minister.

Enclosure 4 in No. 64.

STATE OF THE ISLAND.

Encl. 4 in No. 64.

Public Meetings.

St. Thomas-in-the-East and St. Ann's Bay.

A REQUISITION numerously signed, for a public meeting, to consider "the condition of the people," having been presented to the custos of St. Thomas-in-the-East, his honour has, we learn, appointed the meeting for that purpose at Morant Bay. We trust that there will be a good meeting, and that the people will not on that day allow themselves to be interfered with by any of those who have already written to their disparagement, and made statements without proper foundation, which have so misled Her Majesty's Government as to cause the very indiscreet despatch which the Right Honourable Mr. Cardwell, Secretary of State, was induced to send to Mr. Eyre in reply to the St. Ann's memorial. This document ought to be well handled in a loyal spirit. We know that our beloved Queen is too noble-hearted to say anything unkind, even to Her most humble subjects, and we believe that Mr. Cardwell and Her Majesty's Ministers are gentlemen too honourable and honest in their intentions wilfully to wound the feelings of Her Majesty's Colonial subjects. But we fear they have been deceived and misled, and the consequence is a serious grievance to our people; but we advise them to be prudent, yet firm, in their remonstrances, and we have no doubt that "truth" will ultimately prevail.

People of St. Ann's.
Poor people of St. Ann's.
Starving people of St. Ann's.
Naked people of St. Ann's.

You who have no sugar estates to work on, nor can find other employment, we call on you to come forth; even if you be naked, come forth, and protest against the unjust representations made against you by Mr. Governor Eyre and his band of custodes. You don't require custodes to tell your woes; but you want men free of Government influence; you want honest men; you want men with a sense of right and wrong, and who can appreciate you. Call on your ministers to reveal your true condition, and then call on Heaven to witness, and have mercy.

People of St. Thomas-in-the-East you have been ground down too long already. Shake off your sloth, and speak like honourable and free men at your meeting. Let not a crafty, jesuitical Priesthood deceive you. Prepare for your duty. Remember the destitution in the midst of your families, and your forlorn condition. The Government have taxed you to defend your own rights against the enormities of an unscrupulous and oppressive foreigner—Mr. Custos Ketelhodt. You feel this. It is no wonder you do. You have been dared in this provoking act, and it is sufficient to extinguish your long patience. This is not the time when such deeds should be perpetrated; but as they have been, it is your duty to speak out, and to act, too! We advise you to be up and doing; and to maintain your cause, you must be united in your efforts. The causes of your distress are many, and now is your time to review them. Your custos, we learn, read at the last vestry the Despatch from Mr. Cardwell, which he seemed to think should quiet you. But how can men with a sense of wrong in their bosoms be content to be quiet under such a reproachful Despatch?

Remember that "he only is free whom the truth makes free." You are no longer slaves, but free men. Then, as free men, act your part at the meeting. If the conduct of the custos in wishing the Despatch to silence you be not an act of imprudence, it certainly is an attempt to stifle your free expression of opinions. Will you suffer this? Are you so short-sighted that you cannot discern the occult designs of Mr. Custos Ketelhodt? Do you see how, at every Vestry, he puts off the cause of the poor until the board breaks up, and nothing is done for them. Do you remember how he has kept the smallpox money, and otherwise mis-distributed it, so that many of the people died in want and misery, while he withheld the relief. How that he gave the money to his own friends, and kept it himself, instead of distributing it to the doctors and ministers of religion for the poor. Do you perceive how he shields Messrs. Herschel and Cooke in all their improper acts. You do know how deaf he is on some occasions, and how quick of hearing on others. Do you remember his attempting tyrannical proceedings at the elections? But can you and the inhabitants of St. Thomas-in-the-East longer bear to be afflicted by this enemy to your peace; a custos whose feelings are foreign to yours? Do your duty at the meeting to be held. Try to help yourselves, and Heaven will help you.

More anon!

Enclosure 5 in No. 64.

EXTRACT from Local Newspaper.

Encl. 5 in No. 64.

Bath, St. Thomas in the East.

THE proceedings of the 1st of August in the quiet and picturesque village of Bath have been reported with sufficient correctness, but the writer of the account has omitted to state that the ceremonial of re-opening the enlarged and renovated church was gracefully and appropriately supplemented on the succeeding day by an entertainment given to the children of the schools, who were liberally regaled in the spacious upper-room of the court-house, having been previously briefly and pithily addressed by the Honourable Mr. Georges, the member for the parish and custos of St. David's, and Dr. Bradshaw.

The impressions bequeathed by his most agreeable visit to this gem of the Island will not readily be effaced from the mind of the writer, nor the recollections of the splendid scenery and luxuriant foliage which surround and embower the village. The lively appearance of the long romantic street, crowded by well-dressed people repairing to the tastefully decorated church, the cheerful strains of the Bath bugles waking the echoes of the hills, altogether formed a picture long to be remembered with pleasure.

The only subject of regret was that Dr. Underhill was not present to be an eye-witness of the refu-

JAMAICA.

tation of his notorious letter, presented in the prosperous appearance and condition of the peasantry and their children, many of the latter wearing gold watches, chains, and lockets, to which Mr. Georges pointed, as evidences of the industrious and prudent habits of their parents.

In fact the writer could not help feeling with pain that all signs of squalor and poverty were left behind in the grand city of Kingston. The roads to Bath from town were, notwithstanding Mr. G. W. Gordon's sweeping and unmerited condemnation, in first-rate order. Nowhere could be seen such a dangerous defile as that portion of Duke Street, which abuts on the precincts of head quarter house.

Among the congregation present at the opening service we noticed the Baron Von Ketelhodt, Baron and Baroness Alfred Von Ketelhodt, Hon. Mr. Georges and lady, Drs. Major and Crowdy, Mr. Hendrick, &c., &c.

The clergy and principal company were afterwards most hospitably entertained at Potosi by the zealous incumbent of the district, the Rev. Victor Herschell, (whom we warmly congratulate on this richly deserved successful result of his arduous and protracted labours,) and also by Mr. and Mrs. Georges at Duckenfield, who gave to each and all a real English welcome.

No. 65.

No. 65.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 294.)

* Page 356.

SIR, Downing Street, September 19, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 210* of 22nd August.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 66.

No. 66.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 212.)

King's House, August 22, 1865.

(Received September 13, 1865.)

Mr. Smith to the Governor, 7 Aug. 1865.

SIR, (Answered No. 293, September 18, 1865, page 261.)

Mr. Jordon to Mr. Smith, 17 Aug. 1868.

† Pages 235 and 238.

IN connexion with my Despatches No. 189 of 24th ultimo, and No. 198† of 7th instant, I have the honour now to transmit a letter from Mr. Raynes Waite Smith, formerly a member of the Executive Committee, pointing out the good conduct of the peasantry around him at the commencement of August, when it was anticipated that some disturbances might take place.

I append also a copy of my reply.

2. Although the ready manner in which Mr. Smith's labourers and others of the neighbourhood voluntarily came forward to protect himself and property proves how little he had personally to fear, it also indicates that there was in the minds of the people the rooted belief that serious aggressions of some kind or other were likely to be attempted.

I am happy, however, to say that no disturbance of the public peace has taken place.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Encl. 1 in No. 66.

Enclosure 1 in No. 66.

Mr. SMITH to the GOVERNOR.

MY DEAR SIR, Breadnut Valley, Lilliput P.O., August 7, 1865.

I HAVE to bring to your notice the conduct of the labouring population on my estate. Considerable excitement has for some time existed in this parish in consequence of rumours of a rising of the peasantry in this and some other parishes of the county to such an extent that many families fled from their homes, seeking safety at Black River.

2. I returned here on Saturday the 29th after a temporary absence, when I was asked by the overlooker of the estate whether I intended to remain at home, to which I replied that I had returned with that very intention. He said that the people were very glad to see me back, and that they would protect me. I was also waited upon by some of the rural constables of the district, who said that they were ready to act under my orders in any emergency.

3. In consequence of information I received I expected that the first attempt would be made on my property, and with the view of testing the reality of the good disposition of the people I requested that they would come in to me by 6 o'clock on the night of the 1st of August.

At that hour 70 men of my own property came to my house. They were joined shortly after by about 12 others of the district, and by 20 very respectable people from St. Cruz, about 8 or 10 miles from my dwelling. Some brought their fowling pieces and others cutlasses. They said they were ready to come in every night during the holidays, but after the second night I desired only a guard. In a body amounting to about 100, principally labourers, there was no excitement or noise, all were most obedient to my direction.

4. The excellent disposition thus evinced no doubt sprung out of a feeling personal to myself, but they also expressed their readiness to go where their services might be required in maintenance of order.

5. At the present moment especially I think that a recognition of this good conduct by the Governor, accompanied by some kind words addressed (if you please in a letter to me to be read) to them would be of great service.

6. Your Excellency will observe that I have addressed you privately, as beyond the notice alluded to I do not think any necessity exists for more public acknowledgment.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) RAYNES W. SMITH.

Enclosure 2 in No. 66.

Encl. 2 in No 66.

Mr. JORDON to Mr. Smith.

SIR, Gov. Sec. Office, August 17, 1865.

I AM instructed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, informing his Excellency that a large body of your own people, aided by many others of the district and neighbourhood, had voluntarily offered to protect yourself and your property from aggressions which it was supposed some evil-disposed persons intended to commit during the August holidays.

2. The Governor requests that you will inform the people who have thus set so meritorious an example, that whilst his Excellency is glad to learn that no interruption of the public tranquillity took place, he is much gratified to find that when anticipating that such disturbance might occur so many of the labouring class came forward to give their services in support of peace and good order, to uphold the authority of the law, and to resist lawless aggression had such been attempted, and the Governor will have much pleasure in bringing their good conduct on this occasion under the notice of the Queen's Government.

I have, &c.

R. W. Smith, Esq. Lilliput P.O.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, Gov. Secy.

No. 67.

No. 67.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right. Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 293.)

SIR, Downing Street, September 18, 1865.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 212* of 22d August, enclosing a letter from Mr. R. W. Smith, formerly a member of the Executive Committee, in which he brings under notice the good conduct of the peasantry on his estate at the time when it was anticipated that some disturbance might take place.

* Page 260.

I have to express my satisfaction at this report of the good conduct of the peasantry on the occasion.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 68.

No. 68.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 237.)

King's House, Sepember 20, 1865.

(Received October 14, 1865.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 327, October 24, 1865, page 266.)

IN my Despatch No. 210† of the 22d ultimo I transmitted copies of some letters from certain Baptist ministers declining to circulate the Queen's advice given in your Despatch No. 222‡ of the 14th June last.

† Page 256.

‡ Page 139.

I also forwarded a copy of my reply to those letters.

2. I have now the honour to transmit further communication from the same reverend gentlemen, and of my reply declining to enter into any controversy or discussion with them.

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JAMAICA.

3. I have already pointed out in former Despatches the serious mischief done amongst an ignorant and easily led population when the Missionaries residing amongst them, and professing to be their friends and instructors, endorse at public meetings (got up for the most part by political demagogues or designing agitators) such statements as those contained in Dr. Underhill's letter, to the effect that taxation is excessive and oppressive; that the population are driven to steal by starvation; and that the coloured population are denied political rights and just tribunals.

4. This mischief is of course greatly enhanced when the same Missionaries decline to circulate their Sovereign's advice, given with a view of counteracting these unfavourable impressions, and pointing out the true source of any evils or inconveniences which the labouring classes may occasionally suffer from, and which advice they do not scruple to speak of in terms as unbecoming and disloyal as they are incorrect.

5. I feel quite satisfied that almost the entire intelligent and respectable portion of the community, and large numbers of the labouring classes themselves, not only recognize the perfect justness and applicability of the advice to the Colony as a whole, but feel deeply grateful that it has been given on such high authority.

6. It may not be without significance to remark that it was in the very districts where the Baptist Missionaries above referred to reside that I recently had occasion to take precautionary measures to guard against the occurrence of disturbances which it had been reported to me might possibly arise, as communicated in my Despatches No. 189 of the 24th July and No. 198 of the 7th ultimo;* and although no actual outbreak did take place, I was assured by Captain Gordon of Her Majesty's Ship "Cadmus," who was sent down to visit the localities, that he observed amongst the people a morose manner and indications of disaffection which were anything but satisfactory.

* Pages 235 and 238.

It was in these same districts that the rebellion of 1831-32 originated.

Enclosure 2.

7. I also enclose a copy of a letter from the Rev. J. Clarke, a Baptist Missionary, in reference to the Queen's advice.

Mr. Clarke states that he circulated the advice, but expresses his opinion that it will neither do good nor harm.

He also enters at some length into his views of the causes of the present state of things.

8. One point prominently brought forward is that in Mr. Clarke's opinion the difficulty experienced by some estates in procuring labour arises from there being no suitable accommodation on the estates for decent and respectable labourers, who might be inclined to come from some little distance if able to obtain comfortable quarters to reside in whilst so working.

I believe there is a good deal of truth in this statement as regards some properties, but it is certainly not applicable to all where the difficulty of obtaining labour is experienced.

Nor would it apply to estates where there is a labouring population within a reasonable distance around, and where the labourers could consequently always retire to their own homes when the day's work was over; a state of things which exists with regard to very many of both sugar and coffee estates.

9. It must also be borne in mind, on behalf of the planters, that their properties and produce have so decreased in value of late years that few can afford to sink further sums in building substantial accommodation for labourers, on the speculation of being able thereby to induce persons to come from a considerable distance.

10. Were the labourers of the country in the habit of working every day in the week, and for a considerable number of hours in each day, as in other countries, there would be more inducement to the proprietary body to make unusual efforts to secure their services; but such is not the case, and it may be very questionable how far labour so uncertain and irregular as that generally given by the peasantry of this Colony would prove remunerative, if obtained with the additional cost of a heavy charge upon the investment of capital in building.

11. It may be as well to remark, that whilst such a state of things has arisen in Jamaica that at the present moment (and for some years past) there are many localities in which, from the abandonment of estates and other circumstances, employment on hire could not now be obtained by all the peasantry, even if disposed to labour, yet this state of things has in a great measure been led to by the capricious conduct of the labourers themselves, only working when it suited their own purposes, and not according to the requirements of the employers. Indeed many instances have been mentioned to me in which in byegone years the planters have been obliged to witness their canes lie rotting on the ground (and themselves ruined) because the labourers would not reap them on such terms as the planters could afford to pay.

An estrangement of this kind once grown up is not easily effaced, nor are the results

of an irregular and insufficient supply of labour, in diminishing the demand for it, soon or easily reversed. The labourers I fear have themselves largely conduced to bring about the deficiency of employment for wages of which they now complain.

I would also observe that for the most part in those districts where there is the least demand for labour on hire there land is most easily procurable, and the labourer thereby enabled to cultivate on his own account.

If in such districts any able-bodied persons suffer from want, it must be principally through their own improvidence and want of industry, for though seasons of drought may mar the labours of the year, the small cultivators ought to, and easily might in fruitful years, lay by an ample provision against any such occasional calamities.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 68.

Encl. 1 in No. 68.

Messieurs HENDERSON, DENDY, and REID to Mr. JORDON.

SIR, Montego Bay, August 19, 1865.

WE have the honour to acknowledge yours of the 17th instant, and in reply beg to state that we have informed his honour the custos that he can obtain from the post office the parcels of circulars addressed to us.

2. We cannot admit that those circulars contain the advice of our Sovereign to the peasantry of this parish. We feel confident that Her most gracious Majesty, so renowned for the benevolence and kindness of heart, could never have addressed the suffering poor without one kind word of sympathy for them in their distress, brought upon them by circumstances over which they had no control. There is no evidence whatever before us that it was the wish of Her Majesty that the reply to a few poor people in St. Ann's should be regarded as an answer to complaints of poverty and misrule which have arisen in every part of the Island.

3. We are quite at a loss to understand the meaning of the following: "I am further to state that if "such advice had been more frequently given before, by those who undertake to guide and teach the "people, their condition at the present moment would probably have been much better than it is, and "the advice be less needed now." The only interpretation we are able to put upon this language is that against which our minds instinctively revolt, because it would compel the feeling that his Excellency had used his high position to censure gentlemen of whom he knows but little, and of whose teaching for more than a quarter of a century he can possibly know nothing. Not being able to entertain such an opinion as this of one who represents our Sovereign (for whom we entertain the most profound respect, and to whom we are at all times ready to yield obedience), we should be extremely obliged if his Excellency would state plainly the meaning we are to attach to the paragraph referred to.

4. We have all of us been labouring as missionaries in this Island for more than 25 years, and have had frequent communications from different Governors, and this is the first time we have ever had occasion to refuse a request made to us, and as we before mentioned, the request was refused with deep regret, it being always our wish to render obedience to those who are placed over us, as it is our constant practice to urge those who have put themselves under our care to "be subject unto the higher powers," to render to all their dues, tribute to whom tribute is due, custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour.

5. Hoping that his Excellency will pardon us for seeking the above explanation.

We are, &c.

The Hon. Edw. Jordon, C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) JOHN EDWARD HENDERSON. WALTER DENDY. JAMES REID.

Mr. MAXWELL to Mr. JORDON.

Sir, Shortwood, Montego Bay, September 6, 1865.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 23d ultimo, containing his Excellency's reply to my letter, in which I declined to circulate in this district, as requested, the reply of Her Majesty to the memorial of certain poor people of St. Ann's.

2. I shall comply with your request to forward the circulars to the custos of this parish.

3. In my letter I stated to his Excellency that I deeply regretted being compelled conscientiously to refuse to comply with the request made to me. And so I still feel in the matter; and it is consequently with no small degree of pain that I read such a reply as that which I received from you; a reply which I hesitate not to characterize as far below the dignity of the source from which it emanates.

4. Respecting the assertion put forth in that reply, as to the applicability of this advice, or so-called advice, of the Queen, to this district, I still hold, notwithstanding the great confidence and the air of satisfaction with regard to its presumed infallibility and its silencing nature with which it is made, that it is inapplicable; an opinion which no one who knows anything of the district will dare to contradict. I even go further, and say, that I question unhesitatingly its applicability at the present time to any locality in Jamaica, for I believe that there is none with estates sufficient numerically and pecuniarily to afford continuous employment to half its labouring population throughout the year.

JAMAICA.

I am at a loss to account for the covert and unwarrantable rebuke to and insinuations respecting Christian ministers which are contained in the second paragraph of your letter, except on the supposition that the estimation of their author respecting his ability and sufficiency as a reformer and guide of the people is such as to close his eyes not only to the worth and ability of these men but also to their open deeds. Some of these men have laboured with unimpeachable faithfulness for many years, and have had to endure much that was unpleasant for this very fidelity to their duties; and to their efforts are mainly, if not solely, to be attributed the improvement that has taken place in the social, moral, and religious character and position of the people; and for one in the position of a Governor to employ the high authority of his office to attempt to soil the character of such men by such grave and unjust reflections seems a most uncharitable and undignified conduct. And I beg to assure his Excellency that all sensible and impartial men who see this reply will know what to think and say of his conduct. That were it not for the teachings of these very men the people's condition would not have been what it is now, and that if these teachings had not been so largely counteracted by the pernicious examples of those in the higher walks of society, and many of those in office, and by political misrule and maladministration, "the people's condition at the present moment would probably have been much better than it is;" and there would probably have been no occasion given for the prostitution of authority to offer them cruel insult.

6. With the earnest hope that there will never be a repetition of any such acts in which men who stand second to none in their loyalty to our beloved Queen, and in their intention and desire to respect and obey Her representative in this Island to the best of their ability, and further to their utmost his attempt to meet the ends of government, cannot heartily and conscientiously concur nor consistently support.

To the Hon. Edw. Jordon,
Governor's Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MAXWELL.

Mr. JORDON to the Reverend Messrs. HENDERSON, DANDY, and REID.

Reverend Gentlemen, Gov. Sec. Office, August 29, 1865.

I am instructed by the Governor to state that his Excellency must decline to enter into any further correspondence or discussion on the subject contained in your letter of the 19th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
Gov. Sec.

To the Revs. J. E. Henderson,
W. Dendy, and J. Reid.

Encl. 2 in No. 68.

Enclosure 2 in No. 68.

Mr. CLARKE to Mr. MYERS.

Sir, Mount Hermon, Rodney Hall P.O., September 4, 1865,

In reply to your circular of 25th July, No. 1365, in the absence of the Rev. James Hume, to whom it was addressed, I beg to state that I received some weeks ago 200 copies of the address you name, and circulated it without delay.

2. While doing so, and out of respect to the authority of our beloved Queen, I must say I think the "Address" does not meet the case, and will do very little good or harm.

3. The serious injury to the country began in the time of the apprenticeship, when very few employers prepared wisely for the approaching change. Slave holding and slave driving feelings and practices continued among planters, and cruel usage and savage and oppressive treatment was so common, that the people who would gladly have hired and laboured on the properties on which they were born, and where the dust of their kindred lay, were driven off by various kinds of unwise and cruel oppression, and when they, by excessive rent charged per capita on houses, ejectment of old people, and ill-usage of various kinds, were driven in so many cases to seek homes of their own, they cannot be expected as decent people to come back to estates where they have no proper accommodation for the night, where persons from different parts live promiscuously in improper houses, and on too many of these properties where no honest and regular payment for the work they perform is made. If these two things are supplied, comfortable residences upon estates, as farm servants have on farms in England, and a regular rate of wages by the day or by the year, then, and not until then, can it be expected that the right class of labourers will be obtained, as few, except abandoned people, will congregate in "long houses" of the most objectionable description, on such properties. Some decent people, who have residences of their own near to sugar estates, may walk a few miles to labour upon those where wages are honourably paid; but as "estates ousteads" have not been provided, it is useless to expect that labour can be obtained in sufficient quantity from natives until the swearing and abusive system so common is discontinued. Steady and continuous work can only be secured where uncertainty and caprice do not influence the employer in the payment of wages justly due; and nothing more is necessary to make the properties productive but capital to put them into working order, and a steady weekly payment of labourers, discharging those who work by the day unsatisfactorily, or who do work by the piece in a careless manner. Steadily paid wages, with decent accommodation for those who come from a distance, would speedily bring an abundant supply of labour to any estate, and such employers as would act thus would do well for themselves, and give a good example to others.

4. The one scheme of honest industry has, notwithstanding discouraging and depressing influences, raised some thousands of those who were once slaves to the possession of a large amount of property in land, houses, &c., so that not a few may be regarded with "interest and satisfaction" by Her Majesty, as having advanced themselves to an honourable position, through their own merits and efforts. May this number greatly increase!

5. The oaths made by proprietors and managers in the days of the apprenticeship that persons were worth 4*s*., 3*s*., and 2*s*. per day to the estates, to prevent them from purchasing the remainder of the

apprenticeship term, and to retain them in their thraldom a little longer, was egregious folly. Such valuable labourers should have been dealt with honourably, and induced by kindness to have remained on the property; but this wise plan was seldom, if ever, taken. When August 1838 had come, the persons who before had been worth so much were reduced to a 1*s.* by those who had a little before sworn they were worth two; and one gentleman I heard say, "the people ought to work for nothing, rather than not work on the estates at all;" and to effect this scheme of obtaining labour for nothing two dollars per week was charged for the negro house the man had himself built, on the per capita system of 4*s.* for the husband and 4*s.* for the wife, and in some cases 1*s.* was also charged for each child or inmate of the family who was able to work. What but confusion and every evil was to be expected from such short-sighted policy, and from such unwise procedure. An aged carpenter (of about 60 years of age) was valued at over 300*l.* currency. Sir Lionel Smith ordered a revaluation, and I think about 219*l.* was the second sum; but the attorney filed a bill in Chancery to make the apprentice show cause why the first valuation should not stand. Charles Harvey, esquire, conducted this case for the apprentice, named George Davidson. Thus a good servant was held in servitutde for being good, while a worthless creature could be bought out of the workhouse and set free for 3*l.* 10*s.* sterling.

6. I have no objection at all to immigration of the right description, as the abundance of unproductive land ought to be made productive; but if the very large sums of money so recklessly spent on more than useless immigration schemes had been employed in forming railroads, and in encouraging steam navigation, in what a different position would this Island now be, instead of the poverty-stricken state in which it stands.

7. Praying God to bring contention to an end, and to unite all in wise and disinterested attempts to benefit Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN CLARKE.

W. R. Myers, Esq.,
&c. &c.

Mr. JORDON to Mr. CLARKE.

Gov. Sec. Office, September 14, 1865.

Reverend Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 4th instant, addressed to Mr. Myers, conveying your views of the causes why native labour is not obtainable on many estates.

2. I am also to thank you for complying with the request of the Government to distribute the advice of the Queen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
Governor's Secretary.

The Rev. Jno. Clarke,
&c. &c.

No. 69.

No. 69.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 312.)

Downing Street, October 12, 1865.

SIR,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a Petition to the Queen from Inhabitants of St. Thomas-in-the-East, which has been transmitted to me from Jamaica.

I request that you will inform the Petitioners that it has been laid before the Queen, but that Her Majesty cannot consider a Petition which is not sent through the Governor of the Colony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Governor Eyre,
&c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 69.

Encl. in No. 69.

To the QUEEN'S most EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

St. Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica, September 5, 1865.

WE, your Majesty's most deautiful subjects, the freeholders of Saint Thomas-in-the-East, Jamaica, having been informed that your Majesty has been pleased to investigate in the state of this island by some informations have been laid before the Throne, upon which investigation the planters complains that the black people are lazy and will not work, unto which we most humbly begs to implore your Majesty's attention to our humble communication.

The planters gives us 30 chains for our day's task, which we are unable to finish. We must state that when we were slaves we never had such heavy work. And after having finished those number chains, with the expectation at the end of the week to obtain the amount of 6*s.*, we generally gets 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* for the hole week's pay, which can't purchase us one day's food. Can this support our family? The Island has been ruin consequently of the advantage that is taken of us by the managers of the estates.

JAMAICA.

Another sbuject which we most petifully begs to implore your Majesty's attention. Whenever we have a case which may be taken before the planter magistrates they gives us no satisfaction whatever, but combines with each other and takes away our right. We most humbly besceech your Majesty that it may please your Majesty to appoint a stipendry magestrate to sit at every court day as may enable us to obtain satisfaction.

We have also to state that consequently the Island has been abolished; all the sugar estates, coffee mountains, breeding and grazing farms that were in cultivation in former days have been trown up, which has actually brought a famine upon the land.

There are many young persons that were from respectable connexions have suffered very great adversities by not having any thing to do; whereas, if all these properties were in cultivations, to could of had something to do. We prays that it may please your Majesty's grace to send the Americans to cultivate those trown up properties as may enable us to get something to do.

All we asks is that your Majesty may be pleased to consider over the state of this Island and render the poor some assistance.

And that your Majesty's life may be long spared and that the blessings of those ready to perish may rest on you, this is the sincere wish of your most humble pettioners.

Signed by ANDREW Ross and 39 others.

[Printed verbatim.]

No. 70.

No. 70.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor EYRE.

(No. 327.)

SIR, Downing Street, October 24, 1865.

Page 261. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 237 of the 20th of September.

I have, &c.

Governor Eyre, &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 71.

No. 71.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 306.)

King's House, November 24, 1865.

SIR, (Received December 14, 1865.)

† Page 23. REFERRING to your Despatch No. 213,† of the 1st June last, intimating that certain amendments were required to the Act of last Session, Cap. 18, "An Act to authorize "the Infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain cases of Larceny and other Offences," I have now the honour to transmit an authenticated copy of an Act entitled "An Act "to amend the Act to authorize the Infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain cases "of Larceny and other Offences," passed during the present Session, making the required amendments, accompanied by the Island Secretary's summary thereof, and the Attorney General's report thereon.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Jamaica, ss. No. 4,540.

ANNO REGNI VICESIMO NONO VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

CAP. VII.

AN ACT to amend the Act to authorize the Infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain Cases of Larceny and other Offences.

Preamble. WHEREAS it is expedient to amend and explain the Act of the Legislature, entitled "An Act to authorize the Infliction of Corporal Punishment in certain Cases of Larceny and other Offences," which now awaits Her Majesty's assent: Be it therefore and it hereby is enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly,

Sec. 3 of recited Act repealed. First.—That the third section of the aforesaid Act be and the same hereby is repealed.

Construction of sec. 2 of said Act. Second.—The words "second or subsequent conviction," in the second section of the aforesaid Act, shall be construed to include any conviction of an offence in the said section specified, after a conviction of any other offence therein also specified.

Number of stripes, and instrument with Third.—Whenever sentence of whipping shall be awarded under this and the aforesaid Act, the number of stripes and the instrument with which they are to be inflicted shall be specified by the Court

in such sentence: Provided, that no such sentence shall direct or authorize more than eighteen stripes to be administered to a convict under the age of sixteen years, nor more than thirty-six stripes to a convict above or of that age; and that, in the flogging of a convict under the age of sixteen years, the instrument used shall be a rod composed of tamarind or other switches, and in the case of a convict of or above sixteen years of age, the instrument used shall be the ordinary cat of nine tails. JAMAICA. which to be inflicted, to be specified by the Court.

Fourth.—This Act shall not come into operation until it shall have received Her Majesty's Royal assent, and such assent shall have been notified by advertisement in "the Jamaica Gazette, by authority." Act not to operate till Royal Assent is notified and same gazetted.

Passed the Legislative Council, this 10th day of November 1865.
SAML. RENNALLS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.
Passed the Assembly, this 10th day of November 1865.
CHARLES HAMILTON JACKSON, Speaker.
I consent, this 17th day of November 1865.
E. EYRE.

Vera copia extu^r.
EDWARD JORDON, Island Secretary.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S Report.—29 Vict. c. 7.

In carrying out the directions of the Secretary of State relative to the reduced number of stripes to be sanctioned in certain cases of larceny, the opportunity has been taken of obviating an ambiguity in the second section of the Act 28 Vict. c. 18., by an interpreting of the words "second or subsequent conviction."

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP,
24th November 1865. Attorney-General.

No. 72.

No. 72.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor EYRE to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(Separate.) King's House, September 25, 1865.
(Received December 14, 1865.)
SIR, (Answered, No. 4, December 19, 1865, page 273.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit in duplicate the Annual Blue Book for Jamaica for the year 1864, and to accompany it with the following remarks:—

2. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The form in which these returns have for years past appeared in the Blue Books does not afford a clear statement of the actual transactions of the year, or enable any one to classify all the receipts or payments under distinct headings.

This arises from the peculiar manner in which the Treasury books have been kept during the incumbency of the late Receiver-General, and which succeeding Governors have found it impossible to alter during his lifetime.

The returns do not even show the whole revenue and expenditure, as much of that connected with the roads, with the parishes, and with immigration is omitted, and sums devoted to these objects do not appear.

Loans, interest, redemption of loans, transfers of general revenue to particular accounts, or from one account to another, are all jumbled up together with ordinary receipts or payments, and add to the confusion, and many sums are thus put down under some general heading, which comprehends items that ought to be separate and distinct.

Thus under the head of "import duties," the additional import duties, amounting to 10,905*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*, are altogether omitted because specifically appropriated to the roads. The export duties are put down at 11,543*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.*, though in reality they amount to 18,911*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, because the difference (7,367*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*) is appropriated to immigration purposes. The sum raised by taxes upon breeding stock, horses, carts, &c. is put down at 11,382*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*, though amounting to 29,264*l.* 17*s.* 11*d.*, because the difference (17,882*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*) is applied to main and parochial roads. The main road loans, amounting to 7,123*l.*, do not appear at all.

The sum of 1,522*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, put down as a receipt from perpetual annuity, is a mere transfer from one account to another. So is the sum of 1,630*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*, put down as "Loan, 18 Vict. cap. 60, to repay," &c. &c. &c.

So also with the expenditure side, 27,813*l.* 19*s.* 10*d.* for main roads is altogether omitted; so is 15,763*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.* for parochial roads; so is 6,815*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* invested for a fund for back passages of immigrants. And so with many other items, both of receipts and expenditure.

JAMAICA.

Having called for a return of all the receipts and payments not included in the Blue Book returns, a supplemental statement was forwarded to me, as ill arranged and as little intelligible as the original returns themselves. This supplemental statement I have had printed, and added to the Blue Book, at page C 9. Having now the whole of the transactions of the Treasury before me, though in a confused and unintelligible form, I called for the details of each of the sums inserted in the returns, and I then, at a great expenditure of time and labour, personally analysed the transactions of the year, and have so arranged and classified them, that I trust they will now show in a clear and intelligible manner every source of revenue and expenditure under separate and appropriate headings, as well as all other transactions of the Treasury, which are mere transfers.

The respective Acts under which the services are arranged for are also quoted.

These new returns I have also had printed and added to the Blue Book; they comprise pages C 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

The Blue Book having been printed with all its deficiencies before I saw any of the returns, a long delay has unavoidably taken place in making the laborious analysis above referred to, and in then getting the results printed and added to the Blue Books.

Should you be pleased to approve of the form now adopted (pages C 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16), I will take care that in future it shall be substituted for the incomplete returns of revenue and expenditure which have heretofore been given in the Jamaica Blue Book, and which tend rather to mystify than elucidate the transactions of the Treasury.

3. Revenue.

There has been a large falling off in the receipts from import duties, probably owing to the depressed state of the Colony; also in receipts from still licences, owing to the licence fee having been given up. The export duties have also fallen off, so also have the taxes raised upon stock, horses, carts, &c.

On the other hand there has been a considerable increase in the receipts under the Rum Duty Acts, due to some amendments in the Acts, and to a greater vigilance in working them. The stamp duties, the penitentiary and prison receipts, and some other items have also been larger this year than in 1863.

4. Expenditure.

The expenditure on the whole has increased. An augmentation has taken place in the cost of collecting the revenue; in the administration of justice, owing to the increase of crime; in the expenses of the Assembly, owing to protracted sessions; in the department of the Executive Committee, owing to an increased establishment and to increased pay to the clerks; in the parochial contingencies, chiefly owing to increased provision for the poor; in the immigration expenditure, in providing for back passages; in steam communication with America; in payments of interests and sinking funds upon loans; and in military expenditure, owing to a payment to the Imperial Government of 2,404*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* of arrears due on account of fortifications.

5. Public Debt.

The total public debt, as shown by the Blue Book, amounts to 804,582*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

There has been paid off during the year - - - -	£18,262 6 0
But new loans have been taken up amounting to - -	36,293 5 11
Showing an increase in the public debt of - - - -	£18,030 19 11

This account, however, does not include the funds of the savings' banks or the Court of Chancery deposits, or the insolvent debtors' deposits, all of which in reality constitute part of the public debt.

These amounts stood as follows:—

	30 Sept. 1863.	30 Sept. 1864.	Increase.
Savings' banks deposits -	£23,486 11 10	25,103 15 2	1,617 3 4
Court of Chancery deposits	941 16 8	1,128 7 9	186 11 1
Insolvent deposits -	8,031 12 9	9,284 5 1	1,252 12 4
	£32,460 1 3	£35,516 8 0	£3,056 6 9

The total debt, therefore, amounts to 840,099*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, and the increase of debt during the year to 27,087*l.* 6*s* 8*d.*

The public debt, however, comprises various sums due to different charities and institutions upon which the Colony pays a high rate of interest for the support of such charities and institutions.

During the last session an Act was passed (28 Vict. cap. 23.) converting the debts due on account of these charities and institutions into perpetual annuities, as below stated :—

Charities and Institutions.	Principal.			Interest or Annuities.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Woolmers	12,000	0	0	1,044	0	0
St. Jago de la Vega	600	0	0	60	0	0
Rusea's	2,700	0	0	270	0	0
Gregory's Charity	2,400	0	0	144	0	0
Jamaica Free School	12,451	0	0	996	0	0
Manning's	7,852	14	8	471	3	3
Presbyterian Institution	2,262	12	0	181	0	0
Merrick's	1,200	0	0	72	0	0
Smith's Charity	1,800	0	0	108	0	0
Munro and Dickenson's Charity	23,337	4	3	1,400	4	7
Vere	6,256	0	0	500	9	7
Manchester	2,744	0	0	219	10	5
	64,803	10	11	5,466	7	10

A sum of 64,803*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* has thus been removed from the public debt, and a perpetual annual payment of 5,466*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* has been granted instead.

Applying the above reduction to the debt above stated, the actual net debt of the Island on the 30th September 1864, would be 775,295*l.* 9*s.* 9*d.*

The increase in the public debt has arisen from loans taken up chiefly for the reinstatement of public or parochial roads and bridges, or of public buildings.

6. Military Expenditure.

	By Great Britain.	By the Colony.
1863	£156,660 3 6	£2,845 17 2
1864	164,118 10 7	3,930 0 9
Increase	£7,458 7 1	£1,084 3 7

7. Public Works.

The public works are particularly stated at pages H 2 and H 3 of the Blue Book; but as they are spread over a large area of country, and are undertaken by various local bodies as well as by central departments, it is impossible to obtain a correct analysed statement in detail of all the several works. The new expenditure returns which I have appended to the Blue Book will show that the total expenditure for public works has been 16,007*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* (page C 14), on account of the tramway to Porus, 405*l.* (page C 14), and for roads and bridges generally, 484,791*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.* (page C 14).

8. Legislation.

Thirty-six Acts were passed during the year; the principal being to amend and consolidate the Statute Law, and to amend the immigration laws, and to repeal the charge of ten shillings on claims to vote at elections in certain cases. Other Acts were of a more or less general character, or mere renewals of laws about to expire.

9. Political Franchise.

Consists, first, of a clear annual income (after paying all debts) of 150*l.* for lands held by voter or voter's wife; second, a clear annual income of 200*l.*, arising partly from lands as aforesaid, and partly from any income from office or business (deducting all charges or expenses of such office or business); third, a clear annual income of 300*l.*, arising from office or business as aforesaid; fourth, the payment of taxes annually to the value of 10*l.*

JAMAICA.

10. Councils and Assembly.

The Privy Council consists of 15 members.
The Legislative Council consists of 17 members.
The House of Assembly consists of 47 members.

11. Population.

No census has been taken since May 1861. The returns then were, 213,521 males and 227,743 females; the females being in excess of the male population by nearly 7 per cent.

The white population at the same time was 13,816, or in the proportion of one white to 32 black or coloured.

There has been no addition to the population by immigration during the year.

12. Miscellaneous Returns.

There are seven savings' banks, with 2,306 depositors, and the united deposits amount to 49,460*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*, showing a diminution of deposits of 8,695*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* during the year. though the number of depositors have increased by 84.

The number of immigrants in the Colony amounts to 5,279, of whom 1,477 are captured Africans, and 3,802 are coolies.

The number of paupers returned for the different parishes amounts to 5,465.

13. Ecclesiastical Returns.

The following are the returns given by the different denominations:—

Denominations.	Church Accommodation.	Persons generally attending.
Church of England	48,824	36,300
Baptist	31,640	26,483
Wesleyan	41,775	37,570
Presbyterian	12,575	7,955
Moravian Missions	11,850	9,650
London Missionary Society	8,050	6,780
Roman Catholics	4,110	1,870
American Mission	1,550	775
Hebrew	1,000	500
Church of Scotland	1,000	450
	162,374	128,333

14. Education.

The subjoined statement gives a general summary of the Educational Establishments:—

Number of Schools.	Denomination.	Number of Scholars.
122	Established Church	6,960
66	Baptist Day School	3,381
64	„ Sunday School	7,526
52	Wesleyan	2,965
48	Presbyterian	1,791
18	London Missionary Society	1,108
55	Moravian	3,434
1	Church of Scotland	130
12	Roman Catholic	404
2	Hebrew	100
27	Endowed Schools	2,437
8	American Mission	278
		30,514

15. IMPORTS.

The total imports in 1863 amounted in value to	£1,087,529
The total imports in 1864 amounted in value to	1,142,919
Increase	£55,390

The chief items in which an increased importation has taken place, are:—

Coals, to the value of	£10,203
Goods non-enumerated	13,219
Rice, to the value of	1,662
Segars	1,267
Soap	2,759
Tobacco, Cavendish	2,609
Tobacco leaf	1,215
Wine, in bottles	1,419
Wood shingles	2,434
Wood lumber	4,352
Ad valorem goods	78,126
	£119,265

The chief items in which a decreased importation has taken place are:—

Ale and beer, to the value of	£2,519
Beef	1,334
Butter	490
Candles	3,110
Carts and carriages	565
Drays	1,885
Fish, dried	4,966
Fish, wet	3,937
Flour	23,104
Hams and bacon	2,040
Hardware	416
Lard	1,118
Leather manufactures	553
Machinery	2,386
Oil, castor	796
Oils	1,375
Pork	7,164
Salt	725
Shooks	1,875
Spirits, brandy	948
Stationery	864
Tobacco, manufactured	2,330
Tongues	540
Wheat	1,027
Wine, in bulk	595
Wood manufactures	799
Wood staves	4,312
Wool, cotton	5,392
	£77,165

16. EXPORTS.

The total exports in 1863 amounted in value to	£1,007,924 18 11
The total exports in 1864 amounted in value to	946,906 8 9
Decrease	£61,018 10 2

JAMAICA.

The chief items in which a decreased exportation has taken place are:—

Cattle, to the value of	£840
Coals	988
Coffee	66,579
Copper, old	1,042
Ginger	1,588
Mules	855
Rum	26,701
Succades	1,683
Wool, cotton	9,921
	£110,197

The chief articles in which an increased exportation has taken place are:—

Cocoa nuts, to the value of	£607
Flour	1,631
Merchandise, non-enumerated	903
Pimento, to the value of	4,259
Rice	3,286
Sugar	23,743
Dyewoods and mahogany	11,228
Tobacco	1,934
Wine	898
	£48,489

There has been a large falling off in coffee, rum, ginger, succades, and cotton, but the last is due to the non-importation of blockade-run cotton.

In sugar the quantity produced has been less, but the aggregate value is put down as greater, owing to the improved prices. Dye and other woods, and pimento have been exported to a greater extent than in the previous year.

17. Shipping.

The shipping arriving in the Colony has been greater than in the previous year.

Year.	Number of Vessels.	Number of Tons.	Number of Men.
1863	524	122,753	5,810
1864	548	145,084	6,643
Increase	24	22,331	833

18. Gaols and Prisons.

In 1863 there were committed	4,239
In 1864 there were committed	5,141
Increase	902

19. Charitable Institutions.

Public Hospital.—The daily average number of patients was 170, and the total number of patients treated during the year was 2,205. The cost of the institution was 7,828*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*

Lunatic Asylum.—The daily average number of inmates was 177, and the total number treated during the year 253. The cost of the institution was 5,535*l.* 4*s.* 7*d.*

General and Marine Hospital, Montego Bay.—The daily average number of inmates was 6, and the total number treated during the year, 122. The cost of the institution was 358*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*

Falmouth Marine Hospital.—The daily average number of inmates is not given, but the number treated was 76. The cost of the institution was 379*l.* 0*s.* 4*d.*

Metcalfe Dispensary, City of Kingston.—The number of patients treated during the year was 464, and the cost of the institution 213*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

CHURCH ALMS HOUSE, KINGSTON.—The number of inmates was 32, and the cost of the institution, 383*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.*

NURSE TRAINING INSTITUTION, KINGSTON.—The number of patients admitted was 39. The cost of the institution, 233*l.* 14*s.*

ST. GEORGE'S REFORMATORY FOR BOYS.—Number of inmates, 163. Admitted during the year, 54. Apprenticed out, 49. Cost of the establishment, 2,167*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*

GIRLS' REFORMATORY.—Number of inmates, 90. Admitted during the year, 20. Discharged, 19. Cost of the institution, 1,100*l.*

MILK RIVER BATH.—Number of persons admitted during the year, 229. Annual grants by the Legislature, 324*l.*

BATH OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE, ST. THOMAS IN THE EAST.—Number of persons admitted, 345. Cost of the institution, 151*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

The total cost of the charitable institutions, and of the relief of the poor, amounted, in 1864, to 43,918*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*

20. This Despatch has been necessarily deferred to a late period of the year in consequence of the delay occasioned by a fresh analysis and re-arrangement of the public revenue and expenditure, as mentioned in paragraph 2.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—The occurrence of the recent rebellion and the pressure of work arising out of it unavoidably postponed the getting ready and transmission of this Despatch when it was first drafted.—E. EYRE. 22 Nov. 1865.

No. 73.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 4.)

SIR, Downing Street, December 19, 1865.

I HAVE received Governor Eyre's Despatch (Separate) of the 25th September last, reporting upon the annual Blue Book for Jamaica for the year 1864.* * Page 267.

In paragraph 9 of the Despatch, it is stated that the "Political franchise" consists, "first, of a clear annual income (after paying all debts) of 150*l.* for lands held by a "voter or voter's wife; second, a clear annual income of 200*l.*, arising partly from lands "as aforesaid, and partly from any income from office or business (deducting all charges "or expenses of such office or business); third, a clear annual income of 300*l.*, arising "from office or business as aforesaid; fourth, the payment of taxes annually to the "value of 10*l.*"

On referring to the Colonial Act, 22 Vict. cap. 18., "to define the qualification of "members of Assembly, and of electors, to provide for the registration of voters, and for "other purposes," I find that Governor Eyre's definition of the political franchise refers to the qualification for a seat in the Assembly, and that he has omitted to define the qualification of voters, which, according to the above Act, is declared to be as follows:

1. The possession of a freehold of the annual value of 6*l.* or more.
2. The occupation of a house of the annual value of 20*l.* or more.
3. The receipt of a salary of 50*l.* or more.
4. The payment of direct taxes to the amount of 20*s.* annually.
5. A bank receipt or island certificate showing the ownership of 100*l.* in island securities, or in a saving or other bank.

I have to request that you will inform me without delay whether, beyond the repeal (mentioned in paragraph 17 of Governor Eyre's Despatch No. 128,† of 6th May, 1865,) of the registration fee of 10*s.* on claims to vote at elections, so far as the 6*l.* freeholders, paying 20*s.* taxes per annum, and taxpayers of 30*s.* per annum and upwards, are concerned, any changes have been made in the franchise since the above-mentioned Act was passed. † Page 139.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., &c &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

JAMAICA.

No. 74.

No. 74.

Copy of a LETTER from E. B. UNDERHILL, Esq., LL.D., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

SIR, Oxford, August 17, 1865.

BEING from home I have been unable to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 5,* or to give that attention to the subject that its importance demands.

* Page 189.

You are doubtless aware that the publication in Jamaica of your Despatch to his Excellency the Governor, containing a copy of my letter of January 5, has created intense excitement throughout the Island. I am given to understand that the facts on which I ventured to address you are unquestioned, although opinions vary as to the causes of the distress under which Jamaica is suffering, or the intensity of their operation. Should Her Majesty's Government, under the circumstances, decline to take some decisive action, great disappointment will result, and I fear the existing despondency of all classes will be aggravated by the expectations the inquiries of the Governor have awakened.

Many additional facts and important documents have been communicated to me, on which I shall venture, when I return to town, to address you. Meanwhile, if it be consistent with the practice of the Colonial Office, I would earnestly request the privilege of your permission to peruse the reply of his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica to the statements of my letter. I should then be able more usefully to lay the whole case before you for your final consideration.

I remain, &c.

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD B. UNDERHILL.

No. 75.

No. 75.

Copy of a LETTER from SIR FREDERIC ROGERS, Bart., to EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, Esq., LL.D.

SIR, Downing Street, September 30, 1865.

IN answer to your letter of the *17th of August, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to state that he has no objection to your seeing the Despatches which have been received from the Governor of Jamaica on the subject of your letter, but that they cannot be duly appreciated without a careful examination of the reports and statements collected from the custodes of parishes, magistrates, clergymen of the Church of England and other Ministers of the Gospel, judges and others, on which the Governor's views are founded and maintained. These reports and statements are exceedingly voluminous, and much time and labour would be required to make copies of them, but they will be open to your perusal at any time at which it may suit your convenience to attend at this Office for the purpose of reading them. And when you shall have read them, Mr. Cardwell will be glad to learn what specific action of the Government they appear to you to suggest, always bearing in mind that legislative action requires the concurrence and co-operation of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Jamaica.

* Above.

With reference to the apprehension you express that the excitement occasioned by the inquiries to which your former letter led, will result in great disappointment if some decisive action be not taken, I am desired to acquaint you that the Governor has reported, though without attaching much credit to it, a rumour of riots and insurrection to break out in consequence of delusions created in the minds of the peasantry by designing persons taking advantage of the representations made of the hardships to which they are subjected, and therefore if you shall have any measures to suggest for the benefit of the peasantry, which it is within the competency of Her Majesty's Government to adopt, it will be desirable that your suggestions should be made with as little delay as possible.

I have, &c.

Edward B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 76.

Copy of a LETTER from EDWARD B. UNDERHILL, Esq., LL.D., to the Right Honourable EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

2, John Street, Bedford Row, London,
October 9, 1865.

SIR,

*IN accordance with the wish expressed towards the close of your letter of the 30th ult., I hasten to suggest the only measure that appears to me likely to be of immediate service in the present state of the Island of Jamaica. The fact that legislative action "requires the concurrence and co-operation of the Legislative Council and "Assembly of Jamaica" greatly limits the beneficial interference of Her Majesty's Government with the administration of the government and laws of the Island, and at the same time precludes the offering of any suggestion which might have in view changes in the laws, or mode of administering the Government; many months must elapse before any such alterations could be effected were even the Legislature of Jamaica to agree with Her Majesty's Government on their value and necessity. To allay the present excitement, and to prevent the increase of despondency, which I am assured is paralyzing the energies of the well-disposed part of the population, a measure is required that shall give hope for the future, and at the same time be an assurance to all classes that Her Majesty's Government is earnestly set on seeking a remedy for the evils which afflict all the interests of the Island.

* Page 274.

The only measure that seems to me adapted to meet the emergency, is the one already suggested in my letter of 27th January, viz.: a searching inquiry into the legislation and government of the Island since emancipation, its taxation, and its economical and social condition. This a Royal Commission would effect, and its appointment is, I believe, perfectly within the legitimate action of Her Majesty's Government.

The following reasons will, in my humble opinion, justify such a step on the part of Her Majesty's Government:—

1. The announcement in the Island of the coming of Royal Commissioners for the purposes specified would immediately allay the excitement which the recent inquiries of the Governor have occasioned, and quiet the apprehension of disturbances which his last Despatch confirms as not unlikely to occur. Despondency would give way to the hope that an impartial and thorough inquiry would open a way of escape from the present distress, and time would be secured for maturing measures suited to meet the entire case.

2. It may be taken as a fact, needing no further proof, that with few exceptions all the interests of the Island are in a declining state; that every class of the population is suffering in a greater or less degree; that the cultivation of the staple productions is falling off; that the value of landed property is enormously reduced; that the peasantry are in a most unsatisfactory condition, whether we look to the supply of labour the emancipated people afford, or to their material comfort and social improvement; and this after nearly thirty years of freedom and legislative independence. While other islands are in a flourishing condition, Jamaica is not. In addition to the vast sums paid by this country for the emancipation of the slaves, many loans have been raised and expended in the Island for immigration and other purposes, and charitable and benevolent associations have exerted themselves to educate and improve the condition and character of the people; while on local and governmental objects a large revenue has been raised and spent. Nevertheless, Jamaica is commercially in a lower state than at any previous period, and socially, has not advanced as all interested in the welfare of the people hoped, and had a fair right to expect. There is in these facts alone a sufficient justification of the most searching inquiry. The people of England are deeply interested in the question, why Jamaica is in this state? Why the great and righteous act of emancipation has borne no better fruit?

3. The conflicting statements with regard to the low state of the Island and the causes that have produced it, which reach this country, require to be thoroughly sifted by an impartial tribunal. In no other way can Her Majesty's Government acquire that accurate and precise knowledge which is necessary for legislative or administrative action. I do not mean to imply that any party knowingly offers statements that are untrue; but that sectional interests are so powerful as to furnish only a very partial and one-sided view of the facts of the case. A Royal Commission would examine, compare, and combine the facts, so as to arrive at a conclusion in harmony with all the evidence and circumstances of the case.

JAMAICA.

4. The course of legislation in Jamaica since emancipation requires investigation with respect to what has not been done as well as to that which has been accomplished. "The "Statute Book of the Island for the last six years," wrote Earl Grey in 1853, "presents "nearly a blank as regards laws calculated to improve the condition of the population, and "to raise them in the scale of civilization." This painful statement is in every respect true in 1865. I have gone carefully through the titles of the Acts passed by the Legislature, and allowed by Her Majesty's Government, from 1857 to 1864. They are 221 in number, and there are not more than two which have for their direct object the benefit of the labouring population. One relates to an industrial school; the other, recently passed, makes provision for the vaccination of the population. The franchise is so arranged as to exclude from the privilege the very numerous class of small freeholders, so that, as Governor Eyre recently pointed out, the great mass of the people are not represented in the House of Assembly, and have no political influence in a Government professedly constitutional and representative. In vain have successive Governors urged on the Legislature the appointment of an independent magistracy, unconnected with the sectional interests of the Island, and the formation of improved courts of petty sessions within reach of the people and regularly held, in which the people should not suffer from the eccentricities of judges who are often their employers or their employers' friends. In 1858, Governor Darling in his speech to the House of Assembly at the end of the session, laments the loss of a Bill he had laid before it with this object in view, and declines very significantly "to augment uncertainty in the administration of the law," by enlarging the jurisdiction of the inferior tribunals. In 1862, Govenor Eyre in his speech at the opening of the session of the House of Assembly, pressed on its attention the great difficulty "experienced in procuring a sufficient "number of magistrates to form courts of petty session, and in consequence of which the "administration of justice is greatly impeded or often frustrated altogether; suitors being "compelled to attend successive court days at great inconvenience and expense, without "having their cases called on for trial, at last cease to attend any longer and prefer fore-"going the redress they seek rather than encounter further delay and loss of time." And he adds, "this is an especial hardship to the poorer classes of the community." There is in fact no cause so fertile in producing alienation between the governing class and the governed, between employers and the employed, as the irregularities arising from the want of a righteous and equitable administration of the laws in small causes and minor offences. Penal enactments are numerous enough, and of late years have greatly increased in severity; but the evils above complained of remain unredressed by the Legislature, and crimes and fraudulent practices multiply. Her Majesty's Government cannot but be aware that for these and other reasons the House of Assembly does not enjoy the confidence of any class of Her Majesty's subjects in the Island. It is openly charged with corruption, with class legislation, and with a determined resistance to every claim of the coloured population to just consideration and equal rights. Complaints are made with respect to the laws affecting land tenures and the sale and transfer of lands; but without attempting to exhaust this very important subject, I think that I have advanced sufficient reasons for the investigation I have ventured to suggest.

5. The revenue and expenditure of the Island demand minute investigation. The incidence of taxation and the mode of raising the revenue, seem to be opposed to the principles of political economy; while the amount raised is too large for the present resources of the Island. There is also sore complaint that some interests are favoured to the detriment of the general welfare. It would be within the scope of the duties of a Royal Commission to examine into this important branch of the administration, and to recommend such changes as would be equitable and advantageous to the entire community.

6. A searching inquiry is needed into the working and results of the various immigration laws. The public debt has been largely increased by these enactments, and they have led to the unwise imposition of duties on the staple exports of the Island. It is also affirmed that these laws have been productive of great suffering and mortality among the immigrants. From 1843 to 1863, inclusive, there appears to have been introduced into the Island 18,569 immigrants and liberated Africans, of whom only 1,844 are reported to have returned to their own countries. There remained in the colony in 1863, 4,067 coolies and 1,656 liberated Africans, a total of 5,723, leaving unaccounted for a total of eleven thousand and two (11,002). Can all these have perished? It is also a question whether the evils of this immigration have not more than neutralized the advantages that the planting interest may have in other respects derived from it.

7. A Royal Commission would be preferable to a Parliamentary Committee. The important evidence of the small freeholders and of the peasantry could not be obtained

in this country, and other classes also would be deprived of an opportunity of stating the grievances or burdens under which they suffer. An inquiry carried on in the Island would give every class a hearing, and the investigation would be more thorough and complete.

8. The Commission suggested would furnish, in the facts collected, and the conclusions to which they would lead, a suitable basis for parliamentary action, should Her Majesty's Government deem it to be required. Without such an inquiry, I do not see how Her Majesty's Government could proceed at all to interfere with the present working of the institutions of the Island, however convinced they may be of the necessity of some alteration, seeing that so small a proportion, not a two hundred and thirtieth part of the population, is represented in the Legislature.

Lastly. The course proposed appears to me to find an ample justification in the general principle stated by the Duke of Newcastle, in his Despatch of January 26, 1864, having especial regard to the veto of Her Majesty on the Acts of the Jamaica Legislature. His Grace then said, "Her Majesty's Government are most desirous to exercise no "unnecessary interference with the action of the Colonial Legislature; but they are "bound to bear in mind that the bulk of the population of Jamaica are not represented "in its Assembly. The Crown may thus be called upon, though it may be hoped but "seldom, to extend its protection to the unprotected classes by the exercise of the veto "in purely internal matters." It appears to me that a reason of so much weight for checking unsuitable legislation is of equal or greater validity in sustaining the action of Her Majesty's Government in promoting an inquiry into the state of the Island, and especially in an inquiry directed to ascertain the causes of a distress afflicting all the chief interests of the Island, but which falls with greatest severity on the unrepresented classes.

It is due to myself to add that, in urging on Her Majesty's Government the suggestion I have ventured to make, I have had in view, not the interests of any one portion of the community alone. I believe that the measure will be beneficial to the whole Island. And even if it should not lead to any Parliamentary or legislative action on the part of Her Majesty's Government, the facts collected, and the conclusions arrived at, will be of the greatest service in correcting errors, in guiding administration, in stimulating the influential portion of the Jamaica community to diligent effort to improve the classes below them, and in teaching all parties that the interest of any one class is best served by the prosperity and well-being of all.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. UNDERHILL.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 77. No. 77.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., to the Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen, Downing Street, January 4, 1866.

I am directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for any suggestions and observations which you may have to offer, the enclosed extract of a letter from *Dr. Underhill respecting the working and results of immigration into Jamaica. * Page 275.

I am, &c.
The Emigration Commissioners. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 78. No. 78.

Copy of a DESPATCH from T. W. C. Murdoch, Esq., to Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart.

Sir, Emigration Board, January 8, 1866.

I have to acknowledge your letter of 4th instant, enclosing for our report an extract of a letter from Dr. Underhill on the working and results of the Immigration Laws of Jamaica.

Dr. Underhill states,—Firstly, that by the operation of these laws the public debt of the Colony has been largely increased; second, that they have led to the unwise

JAMAICA. imposition of duties on the staple exports of the Island; and, third, that they have been productive of great suffering and mortality among the immigrants.

2. In regard to the first point, the Acts passed by the Legislature of the Colony for raising loans for immigration purposes are the 15 Vict. c. 39. and 22 Vict. c. 3. The first Act was passed to enable the Colony to take advantage, to the extent of 100,000*l.*, of the Imperial guaranteed loan of 1848, the second, to allow the raising of 150,000*l.* on debentures redeemable in six years. The latter Act was subsequently amended to prolong the period for redemption of the debentures, but has never in fact been brought into operation. The whole amount of the colonial debt on account of immigration at the end of 1864, as appears by the Blue Book for that year, was 73,386*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, being the unredeemed balance of the 100,000*l.* borrowed on the guaranteed loan. Towards the gradual liquidation of this debt a sinking fund of 5 per cent. is established by law. As the whole public debt of Jamaica amounts to 804,582*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*, it can scarcely be considered that the proportion incurred for immigration is excessive.

3. Second, for payment of the interest on the above loan, and also to meet the expense of immigration, duties have been imposed by various Acts on all sugar, rum, molasses, pimento, &c., exported from the Island. This mode of raising the necessary revenue was adopted in order to throw exclusively on the planters, who profit by the labour of immigrants, the whole cost of their introduction. Whether export duties are in the abstract a desirable form of taxation it is unnecessary to inquire. One thing is certain, that the above duties could not in any way affect injuriously the interests of the labouring classes.

4. Third, to show the suffering and mortality caused by these laws to the immigrants, Dr. Underhill gives the numbers introduced, the numbers who have returned to their own countries, and the numbers who remained in the Colony, and he suggests that the number unaccounted for may have all perished. His numbers are as follows:—

Numbers introduced between 1843 and 1863 -		18,569
Returned to their own countries -	1,844	
In the Colony in 1863 - - -	5,723	
		7,567
Unaccounted for - - - -		11,002

If all those unaccounted for have died, the mortality, calculated from the dates at which the immigrants arrived, would be equal to a rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

5. The returns at our command are too imperfect to enable us to pronounce confidently what has become of the immigrants described as unaccounted for, but there are sufficient grounds for assuming that their disappearance does not necessarily or probably imply their death. It is known, for instance, that some years ago a considerable body, supposed to be about 500, emigrated to Central America, to take service on the Panama Railway. It is alleged that emigration has also taken place to other colonies, and no doubt a large number of the deserters from estates would succeed in escaping observation, and, having merged in the general population of the Colony, cannot now be discovered. The census returns included in the Blue Book afford no help in tracing these people, as they distinguished the population only as white, coloured, and black, and probably there are no means, even in the Colony, of making these returns more precise.

6. Of the whole number of immigrants referred to by Dr. Underhill, upwards of 58 per cent. arrived in Jamaica before 1851. It can scarcely be doubted that a large mortality took place among them, and especially among the Indian immigrants, at the time of the cholera in that year. We have no detailed returns on this subject, but it is known that the ravages of that disease exceeded in Jamaica anything ever experienced in Europe. It was estimated that of the whole population of the Colony not less than 40,000, or one-tenth, was carried off; and it is not to be supposed that Indians, by constitution peculiarly susceptible of cholera, should then have escaped. But the returns we possess, imperfect as they are, show no excessive mortality among immigrants of late years. Thus, a return from the immigration agent in the spring of 1861, of coolies then on estates, shows a mortality in the preceding year of only 45 out of 1,472, or 3 per cent., while a report of the immigration agent, dated November 1861, shows a mortality in 1860–61 among newly arrived immigrants (who are always most susceptible of disease) of 4·16 per cent. In a report, dated December 1864, the immigration agent estimates that of 4,635 immigrants introduced between 1860 and 1864, he could at the date of his letter account for 4,112, leaving 523 unaccounted for. Even assuming that these last had died, the mortality would amount to no more than 11·28 per cent. in 4 years. This report, however, was not written with reference to sanitary questions, and is, therefore,

not absolutely precise in its statement of numbers With reference to this point, however, I may in conclusion observe, that in the West Indian Colonies, with the exception of British Guiana, the death rate among immigrants does not amount to 3 per cent. In British Guiana it amounted in 1863 to 5, and in 1864 to 4 per cent.

7. In respect to the Immigration Laws generally, it is almost superfluous to say that the main object with which they have been passed has been the protection and well-being of the immigrant. They have been made the condition of the emigration, and have been framed under the careful supervision of the Home and Indian Governments, and have grown gradually into their present form as experience has pointed out defects or suggested improvements. While they prescribe the extent of labour to be performed by the immigrant, and impose penalties on absentees, deserters, and those who wilfully or negligently damage their employer's property, they provide ample protection for immigrants who are willing to perform their engagements. With this view they require the appointment of an immigration agent general and sub-agents in the several districts, whose duty it is to inspect periodically all estates on which immigrants are employed, to ascertain their condition and to inquire into any complaints they may have to make. They give the Governor power to prescribe by regulation the food and clothing to be furnished during the first three months after the immigrant's arrival, and the lodging and medical care to be provided for him afterwards; and they give the Governor authority, in case the accommodation provided is insufficient or the immigrant is ill-used, to cancel his indentures, and, if necessary, the indentures of all other immigrants on the estate. They prohibit the separation of husbands and wives and parents and children. They give the immigration agent power to decide questions as to wages arising between the employer and the immigrant at the conclusion of his "industrial residence"; they grant the immigrant the status of a natural-born subject and set him free to choose his own mode of life. They provide for Indians back passages at the public expense after 10 years' residence, or if the immigrant should desire it they enable him to commute his right to a back passage for a grant of land. If a back passage is not provided when due, the immigrant is entitled to compensation for the delay.

8. It is impossible to conceive that laws such as these can have had any but a beneficial effect on the condition of immigrants. Statements have no doubt appeared from time to time in the public prints describing the destitute condition of individual immigrants, but on inquiry it has been shown that such destitution has been the result of the immigrant's own vagrant and irregular habits, not of the want of opportunity, or means of obtaining a livelihood. Considering the classes from which immigrants are drawn, it would be too much to expect that cases of this nature should not arise, but it may be confidently asserted that they are not caused, neither could they be prevented, by the action of the law, or by the measures of the Executive Government.

I have, &c.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., &c. &c.

(Signed) T. W. C. MURDOCH.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE TO

THE AFFAIRS OF JAMAICA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
10*th August* 1866.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1866.

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PART I.—ADDRESSES AND MEMORIALS.

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No. 1. JAMAICA.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 6.) King's House, January 20, 1866.

SIR, (Received Feb. 12, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit an Address to the Queen from the pastor and congregation of the Baptist Church at Coultart Grove, in the parish of St. Ann, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in Jamaica.

Memorialists also express their satisfaction at the measure which has passed the Legislature to constitute Jamaica a Crown Colony, and their hope that the proceeding will meet with Her Majesty's approval, as they believe that under present circumstances this part of Her Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 1. Encl. in No. 1.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor, officers, members, &c. of the Baptist church and congregation at Coultart Grove, in the parish of Saint Ann, Jamaica, a congregation connected with the Baptist Missionary Society, and numbering more than 500 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been perpetrated,—deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the enquiries which Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred. And we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that, to the best of our knowledge, a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the districts in which we live, and if it had, that we, Your Majesty's subjects, are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down. We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty, rejoicing as we do exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty and believing that, under present circumstances, this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has been of late years so happily favoured,

We remain

Your Majesty's most faithful and loving subjects,

(Signed by JOHN JAMES STEELE, and by 235 others.)

Jamaica.

No. 2.

No. 2.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 14.) King's House, January 24, 1866.

Sir, (Received Feb. 12, 1866.)

I have the honor to forward a memorial from certain Baptist congregations of this Island, which has been handed to me for transmission by his Excellency Governor Eyre, to whom it was originally sent.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

To the Right Honorable Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The humble Memorial of the United Congregations of Salter's Hill and Maldon, under the care of Walter Dendy, Baptist Missionary. Adopted at a Meeting held at Salter's Hill on the 27th December 1865.

Your memorialists beg leave to express their very deep regret at the violent and wicked conduct which has recently taken place in the parish of Saint Thomas-in-the-East, resulting in the sad destruction of life and property; and they believe it to be right that persons guilty of such conduct should be severely punished. At the same time they record their belief that the power of the civil authorities, aided by a small military body under their direction for a short time, would have been fully equal to the unfortunate emergency, and that such a mode of procedure would have been far more satisfactory to the public, who would thus have had an opportunity of knowing the part that each one who was punished took in the outbreak, and not have been left, as they now are, to entertain suspicions that many who were innocent suffered as if they had been guilty.

Your memorialists, in so far as they have been able to ascertain, believe that the outbreak was only local, and that the Black population at large have had no sympathy whatever with these lawless deeds, but have rather lamented and condemned them. And your memorialists exceedingly regret that Colonel Whitfield should have given an opposite opinion, so hastily formed, in the following extract from a letter to his Excellency Governor Eyre, under date 21st November 1865:—

"My dear Governor,

"I did not like to answer your letter of the 13th instant until I had visited all the detachments "in my district, and seen enough of the people to give an opinion. I quite agree with you in thinking "that a seditious and disloyal spirit pervades the entire Island, and that in all probability the Negroes "would rise if it were not for the presence of the military.

"I think that a considerable amount of inter-communication has and is taking place between the "disaffected in the different parishes, for I observe men of sullen and dissatisfied looks riding about "the country in all directions. About one half the negroes look happy and contented; the remainder "as if they would take much pleasure in cutting our throats.

"I think the same feeling exists among the women, but I do not think this feeling is confined to "that district between Savannah-la-Mar and Montego Bay, but everywhere."

Your memorialists feel the more keenly on this matter, as they are given to understand that Colonel Whitfield travelled from Falmouth to the barracks at Maroon Town, and thence by night to Montego Bay; the latter part of this journey (namely, from Maroon Town to Montego Bay) being through the district in which many of your memorialists reside; and they now affirm solemnly, and without any hesitation, that they have never entertained such a state of feeling as that described by Colonel Whitfield, neither do they believe that such a state of feeling exists in the said district.

Your memorialists regret that at such a period as this, when calm deliberation should pervade the legislature of the Island, it appears to be labouring under undue excitement and dread, and is hastily adopting measures calculated to deprive the loyal and peaceable inhabitants of this Island of the civil and religious liberties which they have hitherto enjoyed; which were graciously guaranteed to them when the Emancipation Act was passed, and which again were assured to them by his Excellency Sir Edward Grey, Governor of this Island in the year 1848, in a proclamation, in which he declared that "the freedom which was given to the Negro people of Jamaica was given without recall or reserve, "and that the rights of the labourers of that race now stand on the same foundations as those of the "planter or proprietor, or those of the people of England, and are a part of the constitution of the "empire." That the introduction of a bill into the House of Assembly by Mr. Hosack, a member of the Executive Committee, entitled "A Bill to regulate Places of Meeting for Religious Worship, and "for other purposes," filled your memorialists with alarm, as it would have led to the shutting up of their chapels and other places of worship, as well as to the breaking up of their Sunday Schools. They rejoiced when, through the strenuous opposition of the dissenting bodies near the seat of Government, the bill was withdrawn; but they were again thrown into a state of anxiety in consequence of an amended bill since introduced into the Legislative Council by Dr. Hamilton, also a member of the Executive Committee, entitled "A Bill to preserve the Public Worship of God from scandalous Abuses, "superstitious Practices, and seditious Purposes," which passed the Legislative Council, and only was withdrawn from the House of Assembly after the second reading.

Other enactments relating to the formation of a militia, speeches at public meetings, the liberty of the press, &c. Your memorialists trust they will be carefully scrutinized by Her Majesty's Government in Great Britain before they receive the Royal assent.

Your memoralists feel aggrieved that his Excellency Governor Eyre should entertain a suspicion as to the character of the teaching of their pastor, as appears in a communication from his secretary to him and two other Baptist missionaries.

Your memorialists, therefore, would take this opportunity of testifying to the doctrine of their esteemed minister, who has laboured among them from the days of slavery until the present time. They can unhesitatingly aver that his teaching has always been in full harmony with the Word of God, which enjoins obedience to the laws of the Divine Founder of the Christian religion, and also to the ruling powers of the land in which they live. And as a proof of the manner in which he urges moral and social duties, we would also take leave to embody two resolutions which were adopted by us during the past year; the first on occasion of the anniversary of Chapel openings, and the second in commemoration of the anniversary of Freedom. At the anniversary of Chapel openings held in the month of April, it was resolved, that this meeting, passing by for the present the policy that ought to be pursued by the legislature, considers that some of the means to be employed in order to promote the temporal and spiritual interests of the Colony are, "the spread of education, the prevalence of a spirit "of persevering industry, and the right discharge of our personal, relative, and religious duties, accom- "panied with earnest prayer to God that His blessing may be more fully enjoyed, and that He would "once more cause prosperity to abound in our midst." The resolution passed at the anniversary of Freedom was, "That this meeting urges on all connected with the church and congregation the "importance of prayer to God for a revival of religion, and for the cessation of crime, as well as the "necessity laid upon them, by setting an example of honesty, sobriety, and industry, of constant attend- "ance on the means of grace, of care in training up their children, of zealous support of the day and "Sunday schools, and the religious institutions of the land, to elevate the community, and promote the "prosperity of all classes."

Your memorialists crave leave further to state, that those connected with the congregations of Salter's Hill and Maldon have ever shown respect for "the powers that be" in this Island, and an ardent attachment to Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and they can with pleasing satisfaction refer to the testimony of former Governors on these points. They can go far back as to the days of apprenticeship, when a deputation from this congregation, with others, waited on his Excellency Sir Lionel Smith at Montego Bay with an address from the apprentices to thank his Excellency for the kind advice he had given to them in his proclamation relating to freedom, which was then near at hand. His Excellency in reply was pleased to say, "I received with great satisfaction this assurance of the dis- "position with which you are prepared to enter upon the condition of freedom, and of your loyalty "and good feeling in attending to the advice which I have lately caused to be circulated among you in "the shape of a proclamation."

His Excellency Charles Edward Grey in the year 1848 saw fit to issue a proclamation, in consequence of its having come to his knowledge that the minds of the people had been disturbed and agitated by foolish and malicious rumours that slavery, or that some modification of slavery, was about to be established. A meeting was held at Salter's Hill, and a memorial was adopted and forwarded to his Excellency; to which he was, through his secretary, pleased to reply in the following words, under date "10th August 1848:"—

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge your letter of the 4th, accompanying a memorial "adopted at a public meeting held at Salter's Hill, Saint James, on the 1st inst.

"His Excellency desires me to say, that it has afforded him sincere gratification to receive such a "declaration of loyal sentiment and good feeling, and to observe the just grounds and accurrate "reasoning upon which the memorialists are prepared to assert the superior value to their own interests "of Her Majesty's Government above all others; and the Governor feels thoroughly assured that there "never has been nor ever will be amongst the people of Jamaica any thought so wicked or purpose so "insane as to exchange the peace and protection they enjoy, for tumults and contention, and the "disasters and calamities which they never fail to bring upon all classes."

(Signed) T. F. PILGRIM, Secretary.

His Excellency Sir Henry Barkly was pleased very graciously to visit this missionary station on the 8th May 1854, and in the same month he made his report to the Colonial Office as follows:—

"Among other visits paid with the view of making myself better acquainted with the sentiments of "the peasantry, I stopped on two occasions at the principal Baptist stations in Saint James, Mount "Carey, near the Montpelier's and Salter's Hill, on the road to Maroon Town, the ministers in charge "of which had previously requested me to receive addresses from their assembled congregations. I "availed myself of the opportunity.

"Whatever may have been the case in past times, the advice now given by the Baptist ministers to "their flocks is sound enough, and I should be very sorry to see the decline of their influence over "them, perceiving as I do that no other would replace it, and that, if left to themselves in remote "localities, the people must inevitably retrograde.

"As a member of the church of England, I, of course should prefer to see the spread of her "communion, but, supposing it for a moment possible for her ministers to acquire that influence over the "Negro which the traditions of the past, no less than the zealous solicitude of the present, confer on "these missionaries, it would obviously be utterly impracticable for the rector or the curates of a parish "containing some 300 square miles to leave the localities to which their duties tie them down, for the "purpose of following these settlers in the wilderness, and urging them to the erection of chapels and "schools as the Baptists invariably do. That their teaching has, on the whole, been productive of great "good, is now I think, all but universally admitted; and I am bound to state that I found their con- "gregations well dressed and orderly, and with every appearance of being, as I believe they are, the "most civilized portion of the emancipated population."

Your memorialists would not have troubled you, Honorable Sir, and Her Majesty's Government, with the perusal of these statements, had not their characters been assailed as disloyal and disaffected, and

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but for the suspicion that has been cast upon their ministers by the introduction of such bills as we have referred to relating to religious worship. Besides, we have been creditably, informed that packet letters from dear relations, and from the secretaries of our society in England, addressed to our beloved minister, have been detained at the post office, and opened by Government orders, exposing to official eyes, at a time of profound grief to our minister, letters of sympathy with him under a heavy domestic bereavement.

Your memorialists therefore earnestly intreat you, Honorable Sir, and Her Majesty's Government, to exercise a strict watchfulness over any laws that may be enacted by the legislature of this Island infringing on the principles of civil and religious liberty in this Her Majesty's island of Jamaica, and to advise the disallowance of all such legislation.

Your memorialists assure you, and trust that you will believe, that they are firmly attached to Her Majesty's person and throne, and to the British government. They gratefully remember that it was under Her Majesty's reign that full and entire emancipation from slavery was granted, and they would consider themselves unworthy of this great and invaluable boon, if they were now to dream of rebelling against the authority of a Sovereign under whose happy rule they enjoy so many blessings.

On the contrary, be assured that Her Majesty the Queen is remembered by your memorialists in their prayers at a Throne of Grace, and that they will not cease to implore that She may long live, as She has hitherto done, in the affections of Her subjects, and that at last, Her earthly reign being by the will of God peacefully ended, she may receive a Crown of Life which shall never fade.

GEORGE B. ALEXANDER, A. M.,
Tutor of Montego Bay Academy,
Chairman.

ADAM THOMPSON,
Minister of Presbyterian Church,
Montego Bay,
Secretary.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 17.) King's House, January 29, 1866.

SIR, (Received March 2, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit various memorials addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from certain Baptist congregations of this island, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. 1 in No. 3.

Enclosure 1 in No. 3.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers of the Baptist churches at Brown's Town, Bethany, and Sturge Town, in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society in the parish of Saint Ann, Jamaica, representing congregations numbering about 2,500 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal and devoted unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully-constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been committed,—deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects, laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred; and we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the districts in which we live, and, if it had, that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the Legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty,—rejoicing, as we do, exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that, under present circumstances, this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has of late years been so highly favoured,

We remain,
Your Majesty's most faithful
and loving subjects.
(Signed by JOHN CLARK, Pastor;
and by 20 others.)

Enclosure 2 in No. 3.

Encl. 2 in No. 3.

Kettering, Duncans, Jamaica, December 30, 1865.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist church and congregation in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society assembling at Kettering, in the parish of Trelawny, Jamaica, a congregation numbering more than 600 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal and unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been committed,—deeds we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects, laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which we have reason to believe Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character. Yet we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that though, as in every community throughout the world, there may be found some questionable characters, yet we do not believe that a spirit of sedition and rebellion does exist among the inhabitants of this district and if it had, that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects, while we are sure that Your Majesty will not only command that inquiry shall be made into the causes of this sad and wicked outbreak, but also a just and impartial investigation into the penalties with which, it has been visited,—penalties which, it is commonly reported, have involved the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of the lives of Your Majesty's subjects.

And we further venture to implore that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the government of the Island into Your Majesty's own hands, as the only means of restoring confidence, peace, and prosperity to the Colony.

Fervently praying that "He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice," may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and that when Your Majesty's course on earth is ended, Your Majesty may wear "a crown of glory which shall never fade away, eternal in the heavens,"

We remain
Your Majesty's faithful and loving subjects.
(Signed by ELLIS FRAY, and by 106 others.)

Enclosure 3 in No. 3.

Encl. 3 in No. 3

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist Church and congregation in connection with the Baptist Missionary Society assembling at Refuge, in the parish of Trelawny, Jamaica, a congregation numbering 1,200 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal and unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island against

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the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been committed,—deeds we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the enquiries which we have reason to believe Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character. Yet we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that though, as in every community throughout the world, there may be found some questionable characters, yet we do not believe that a spirit of sedition and rebellion does exist among the inhabitants of this district, and if it had, that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects, while we are sure that Your Majesty will not only command that enquiries shall be made into the causes of this sad and wicked outbreak, but also a just and impartial investigation into the penalties with which it has been visited,—penalties which, it is commonly reported, have involved the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of the lives of Your Majesty's subjects.

And we further venture to implore that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the government of the Island into Your Majesty's own hands, as the only means of restoring confidence, peace, and prosperity to the Colony.

Fervently praying that "He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice," may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and that when Your Majesty's course on earth is ended Your Majesty may wear "a crown of glory which shall never fade away, eternal in the heavens,"

We remain
Your Majesty's faithful and loving subjects,
(Signed by Ellis Fray, Pastor;
and by 179 others.)

Encl. 4 in No. 3.

Enclosure 4 in No. 3.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

May it please Your Majesty,

We, the undersigned most loyal subjects and dutiful servants of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist church and congregation, in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society, assembling at Rio Bueno, in the parish of Trelawny, Jamaica,—a congregation numbering more than 600 persons,—approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our profound, loyal, and unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the Eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully-constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been committed,—deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which we have reason to believe Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred; and we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the districts in which we live, and, if it had, that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities in putting it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects, while we are sure that Your Majesty will not only command that inquiry shall be made into the causes of this sad and wicked outbreak, but also a just and impartial investigation into the penalties with which it has been visited,—penalties which, it is commonly reported, have involved the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of the lives of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the Legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty, rejoicing, as we do exceedingly, in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that, under present circumstances, this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may

continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has of late years been so highly favoured,

We are, with profound veneration,
Your Majesty's most faithful, most loving subjects,
and dutiful servants.
(Signed by D. J. EAST, Pastor;
and by 84 others.)

Rio Bueno, Jamaica,
5th January 1866.

Enclosure 5 in No. 3.

Encl. 5 in No. 3.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, residing in Montego Bay and its neighbourhood, parish of St. James, Island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. James Reid, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's Government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East, and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property which has been destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island with the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our Gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in the statement so far as we ourselves are concerned, and, to the best of our knowledge, we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners. Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but even grateful to Your Majesty's Government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching investigation into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, to defend it against foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign a very prosperous one, and at length give you an abundant entrance "into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

Signed in the name and on behalf of the Congregation.
JAMES REID, Pastor,
Baptist Chapel, Montego Bay.
Sabbath, 14th January 1866.

Enclosure 6 in No. 3.

Encl. 6 in No. 3.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a church and congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, worshiping at Shortwood, in the parish of St. James, in the island of Jamaica,—a congregation which numbers about 1,000 individuals,—beg permission to approach our Gracious Sovereign with the expression of our loyal and unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and government, and our unfeigned and heartfelt gratitude for the blessings which, in common with our fellow subjects, we enjoy under Your Majesty's benignant reign.

We humbly assure Your Majesty that we deeply mourn over the late outbreak at Morant Bay, in St. Thomas-in-the-East, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, and that we fully acquiesce in the righteous punishment of all who took part in it. We would, however, in the most respectful manner, crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives,—about 2,000—reported to have been sacrificed, and the amount of property said to have been destroyed, by those employed in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been deeply grieved by and greatly concerned about the representations and statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre, and others, that the late riot was only part of a plan on the part of the Black population for a rebellion throughout the entire Island with the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

Your Majesty will permit us to assure you that there is no truth whatever in these assertions, so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners. The Word of God and our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus Christ, and not only to be loyal but even grateful to Your Majesty's

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Government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of our God for time and eternity.

We can concientiously assure Your Majesty that we are, as we have ever been, ready to rally around Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to the laying down of our lives, to defend it against enemies within and without.

We humbly offer our sincere thanks to our Gracious Sovereign for appointing a Commission to inquire into the nature, causes, and suppression of the late outbreak, and into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions; and we believe that the results of that enquiry will show that that outbreak was strictly local in intention and purpose as well as in acts, and that these assertions are altogether groundless.

We would further express to Your Majesty our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has recently passed the legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony; and we venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive Your Majesty's sanction; for we exceedingly rejoice in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of our Queen, believing that at present this country is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Fervently and earnestly praying that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign very prosperous and happy, and at length grant to You an "abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,"

We remain

Your Majesty's most loyal and faithful subjects.

Signed in the name and on the behalf of the church and congregation,

JAMES MAXWELL, Pastor; and 10 others.

Encl. 7 in No. 3.

Enclosure 7 in No. 3.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, numbering upwards of 600 persons, worshipping at Watford Hill, in the parish of Hanover, in the island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. E. Henderson, beg to approach Your Majesty with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person, and of loyal attachment for Your Majesty's Government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property which has been destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island, for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants. We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure Your most Gracious Majesty that there is no truth in these statements so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but even grateful to Your Majesty's Government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and for eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching inquiry into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and the means used for its suppression, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making the alarming assertions above named.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, to defend it against foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He may spare Your Majesty's valuable life, continue to render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give you an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed on behalf of the congregation, and at its request, by

JOHN E. HENDERSON, Pastor.

Encl. 8 in No. 3.

Enclosure 8 in No. 3.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor, officers, members, &c. of the Baptist church and congregation at Coultart Grove, in the parish of St. Ann, Jamaica, a congregation connected with the Baptist Missionary Society, and numbering more than 500 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been perpetrated,—deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion, and the ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred. And we crave permission to assure Your Majesty, that, to the best of our knowledge, a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the district in which we live, and, if it had, that we, Your Majesty's subjects, are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down. We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty, rejoicing as we do exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that under present circumstances this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice, may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has been of late years so happily favoured,

We remain

Your Majesty's most faithful and loving subjects.

(Signed by JOHN JAMES STEELE,
and by 248 others.)

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 18.) King's House, February 1, 1866.

SIR, (Received March 2, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit five memorials addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from certain Baptist congregations of this island, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 4.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, residing in Bethtephil and its neighbourhood, parish of St. James, island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. G. R. Henderson, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was only part of a plan for rebellion throughout the entire Island, with the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our Gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in the statement, so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but grateful to Your Majesty's government, and we could not entertain

JAMAICA.

hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching investigation into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, to defend it from foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give You an abundant entrance "into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

Signed in the name and on behalf of the congregation.

G. R. HENDERSON.

Baptist Chapel, Bethtephil,
Sabbath, 28th January 1866. Congregation numbering 600.

Encl. 2 in No. 4.

Enclosure 2 in No. 4.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a congregation of Protestant Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, worshipping in Montego Bay, in the parish of St. James, in the island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. E. Henderson, beg to approach Your Majesty with the assurance of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person, and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's government.

The late outbreak at Morant Bay has caused us deep sorrow, and we mourn that any of our fellow countrymen should have been guilty of the great crimes of riot and murder, and we fully acquiesce in the punishment which has overtaken all thus guilty. We would, however, crave Your Majesty's attention to the fact that it is reported that in the suppression of this riot between 2,000 and 3,000 persons have been shot and hanged, many of them being women and children, whilst a much larger number both of men and women have been flogged; and that whole villages have been burned to the ground, and a multitude of innocent widows and children left in a state of utter destitution.

We have, Your Majesty, been greatly distressed by the statements of his Excellency Governor Eyre that the late riot was part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the Island, for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants. We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal black and coloured subjects, beg to assure Your most Gracious Majesty that there is no truth in these statements, as far as we ourselves are concerned, and we feel confident that we can affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

We have, Your Majesty, been taught the great value of human life; our teachers have instructed us in the duty of being loyal and loving subjects of Your Majesty, and we have always felt that we owe to Your Majesty a debt of gratitude we can never pay for the glorious act of Emancipation, by which many of us were made free men and women.

We feel we could not, Your Majesty, entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of Almighty God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for the appointment of a Commission to institute a searching inquiry into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and the means used for its suppression, and also into the charges which his Excellency has brought against the people of the country.

Your Majesty will further permit us to state, that we have been pained to learn that our beloved minister's letters have been opened and detained by order of Governor Eyre, thereby showing that a suspicion was entertained of his being in complicity with those who wickedly rose up against lawfully constituted authority. Knowing as we do how loyal a subject of Your Majesty our minister is, we deeply regret that such a suspicion should have been entertained against him.

We beg, in conclusion, to assure Your Majesty that we shall be willing always to place ourselves at the disposal of Your Majesty, and to sacrifice our lives, if necessary, in defence of Your Majesty's government.

Our earnest prayer to God is that he may long spare Your Majesty, comfort You in Your sorrow, make Your reign increasingly prosperous, and at last give Your most Gracious Majesty an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed on behalf of the congregation,

SAMUEL JAS. VAUGHAN, senior deacon,
and by 23 others.

Encl. 3 in No. 4.

Enclosure 3 in No. 4.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, residing in Hastings and its neighbourhood, parish of Trelawney, island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. G. R. Henderson, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person, and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East: and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in

the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island, with the purpose of destroying the white and colored inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our Gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in the statement so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but grateful to Your Majesty's government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching investigation into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's government, and to do all in our power to defend it from foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give You an abundant entrance "into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

Signed in the name and on behalf of the congregation,
G. R. HENDERSON.

Baptist Chapel, Hastings,
Sabbath, 21st January 1866.

Congregation numbering 500.

Enclosure 4 in No. 4.

Encl 4 in No. 4.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor, officers, and members of the Baptist churches in Manchester and Lower Clarendon, including congregations numbering upwards of 2,000 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the cruel and atrocious murders said to have been committed,—deeds which we cannot think of but with shame and abhorrence as repugnant to our holy religion, and to all the ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in the mind of Your Majesty of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the enquiries which with fervent gratitude we learn Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred. And we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the district in which we live; and, if it had, that with ourselves Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects, while we would express to Your Majesty our sincere and cordial thanks that You have graciously commanded an impartial inquiry to be made into the causes of this wicked outbreak, as also into the penalties with which it has been visited,—penalties which have involved, as commonly reported, the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of the lives of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty, rejoicing as we do exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that under present circumstances this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings and princes decree justice may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a loyal and devoted people, and may continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has of late years been so highly favored,

We remain,
Your Majesty's most faithful and loving subjects.
Signed on behalf of the churches by
WILLIAM CALYDON, Pastor;
and by 55 others.

JAMAICA.

Encl. 5. in No. 4.

Enclosure 5 in No. 4.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Minister, Deacons, and Members of the Baptist Churches at Mount Carey, in the parish of St. James, and Bethel Town in the parish of Westmoreland, Jamaica, numbering 1,200 persons.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the pastor and deacons of the churches and congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the Baptist denomination in the island of Jamaica, usually meeting for divine worship in their chapels in the parish of St. James and Westmoreland, present to Your Majesty, with sentiments of profound submission and respect, an expression of our feelings in relation to the present eventful crisis of public affairs in this Colony, as evidenced by the recent outbreak and violence, on the part of some of our fellow subjects of the labouring class, at the town of Morant Bay, in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that whilst we are impressed with the conviction that the first tribute of our gratitude ought to be rendered to Almighty God for the happy circumstances of civil and religious freedom under which we are placed, we, at the same time, feel ourselves bound not only by the ordinary and sacred ties which regulate the duties of subjects to their rulers, but also by the peculiar and never to be forgotten bond of gratitude to Your most Gracious Majesty for the great boon of freedom conferred upon many of us, at the commencement of Your Majesty's auspicious and beneficent reign, and for the many occasions subsequently in which Your Majesty has afforded us protection, and otherwise manifested towards us consideration and regard. Thus persuaded that we can enjoy no greater temporal blessings than to be governed by a monarch who rules in the fear of God, and by such laws as secure equal rights and privileges to Her subjects of every rank, color, and religious creed, we, in obedience to the admonition of one of the greatest of Sovereigns, have no desire but to "Fear the Lord and the King, and not meddle with them that are given to change."

With the sentiments of lively satisfaction and joy thus expressed, we are deeply grieved that attempts are being made in this country and in England to represent us as being as discontented and factious people, and as having aided in or approved of the late disastrous riot in the eastern part of the Island, which has resulted in such fearful outrages upon Your Majesty's constituted authorties and other gentlemen of the district.

While we assure Your Majesty that this imputation is altogether cruel and unjust, such conduct being directly at variance with our secular interests, as well as derogatory to our character as professing Christians, we pray Your Majesty to give us credit for sincerity when we declare that the deeds of these misguided men are in every sense as painful and revolting to us as they can possibly be to any class of Your Majesty's subjects.

As Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, we feel deeply grieved at the imputation thus sought to be fixed on our character, and totally deny all complicity in or sympathy with the perpetrators of this outrage, and we deem it right to give this assurance lest we should suffer the loss of Your Majesty's continued confidence and favour. We would most solemnly renew to Your most gracious Majesty our assurances that we are and ever have been Your Majesty's peaceable and loyal subjects, valuing the blessings of civil and reiigious liberty too highly to hazard them by insubordination to the laws under which we live, and the authorities Your Majesty has placed over us.

In conclusion, permit us to implore Your Majesty to give no credit to any insinuation against our loyalty, from whatever quarter it may emanate, but to honor us with the fullest belief when we reiterate our solemn conviction that Your Majesty has no more loving and devoted subjects than the Baptist missionaries and the thousands of their people, in any part of Your dominions, while we can with equal sincerity affirm that it would be one of the greatest grievances we could suffer even to be suspected of disaffection or ingratitude towards Your Majesty's person, or loyalty to Your throne.

May God preserve and bless Your Majesty and all the royal family, and prolong Your government over us; and at last, full of days and full of honor, may You, in the enjoyment of the richest consolations of religion, receive from the hands of "Him by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice," a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

We are,
most Gracious Majesty,
Your faithful and loyal subjects.
(Signed by EDWARD HEWETT,
Pastor of the churches above-named, and on behalf thereof;
and by 13 others.)

No. 5

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 22.) King's House, February 7, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 2, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from the pastor and congregations of the Baptist churches at Lucea, Sandy Bay, and

Green Island, in the parish of Hanover, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 5. Encl. in No. 5.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, being congregations of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, and worshipping at Lucea, Sandy Bay, and Green Island, in the parish of Hanover, in the island of Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Reverend William Teall, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person, and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's government.

We deeply mourn over the late riot at Morant Bay, Saint Thomas-in-the-East, with all its melancholy and direful consequences; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbance, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our Sovereign that there is no truth in the statement so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus Christ, and to be not loyal only but also grateful to Your Majesty's government; and we know we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching inquiry into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming statements.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's government, and to do all in our power, even to the laying down of our lives, in defending it against foes within and enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He will preserve Your Majesty's valuable life and render Your reign very prosperous, and when at length Your Majesty's earthly crown shall be laid down You may receive a crown which shall never fade.

Signed on behalf of the
churches and congregations.
WILLIAM TEALL, Minister;
and by 101 others.

No. 6. No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 23.) King's House, February 8, 1866.

SIR, (Received March 2, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit herewith, at the request of Governor Eyre, copies of several addresses in reference to the late rebellion in this Colony, which have been presented to his Excellency, and his replies thereto.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

JAMAICA.

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

ADDRESSES PRESENTED TO HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR EYRE.

Mr. Justice KEMBLE to Mr. JORDAN.

SIR, Lucea, Nov. 6, 1865.

I HAVE the honor to enclose, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the presentment of the grand jury of the parish of Hanover, made to me this day whilst presiding at the Hanover Circuit Court.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B., (Signed) EDWARD KEMBLE, J.
Governor's Secretary.

To the Hon. EDWD. KEMBLE, Judge of the Supreme Court.

The Presentment of the Grand Jury of the parish of Hanover.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR,

WE, the grand inquest of the parish of Hanover, deem it our duty in the present state of the Island to call your honor's attention to the unprotected condition of the loyal and peaceable inhabitants of this parish.

As we have hitherto believed that no class of the inhabitants of the Island were labouring under any social or political disadvantages, we were astonished and confounded at the causeless and bloody insurrection which has devastated the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East; and whilst we are convinced that a large number of the inhabitants of the Island are loyal and well disposed, we regret to say that, from indications we have observed in our various districts, we are of opinion that the spirit of disaffection is widely spread.

We are pleased and grateful for the energy and promptitude manifested by his Excellency the Governor, the military and naval authorities, in putting down the rebellion, but we naturally entertain fears for the stability of peace and order in the Island, unless stringent and immediate measures be adopted for their preservation.

We sincerely trust that the Legislature, which will meet to-morrow, will adopt measures to attain this end, and we request your Honor to transmit to his Excellency the Governor the opinion of the Grand Jury that the loyal inhabitants of this parish are willing to submit to any sacrifices that may be necessary to secure the peace of the Island.

On behalf and by the
desire of the Grand Jury,
(Signed) JACOB LYON,
Foreman.

Mr. Justice KEMBLE to Mr. JORDON.

SIR, Montego Bay, Nov. 14, 1865.

I BEG to enclose, for his Excellency's information, the presentment of the Grand Jury of the parish of St. James, made to me at the St. James Circuit Court yesterday.

I have, &c.

The Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B., (Signed) EDWARD KEMBLE, J.
Governor's Secretary.

TO HIS HONOR THE JUDGE,

WE, the grand inquest of St. James, take leave to represent to your Honor an irregularity and oversight in the preparation of the panel of jurors for this parish, which now and for some time past has prevailed. We refer to the omission from the panel of the grand jury of magistrates and other gentlemen of standing, education, and intelligence, and also the continuance on the panel of others who by their age should be exempt therefrom.

We need scarcely assure your Honor of our devotion and loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen, and that our utmost endeavour will at all times be exerted to preserve peace and order in our parish.

We further beg to call the attention of the Government, through your Honor, to the general inefficiency of the police force of this parish. The inspector is required to attend two parishes, viz., St. James and Hanover, while his health does not admit of his discharging the duties appertaining to one. The senior sergeant, on whom the responsibility rests during the absence and ill health of the inspector, resides at the distance of one mile from the police station, and consequently the discipline of the force is seriously affected thereby. We regret to observe that a latent spirit of discontent appears to exist among the labouring classes of this parish, which at any time may manifest itself by overt acts, and which alone may be restrained by the presence of an adequate military force.

(Signed) R. W. BUCHANAN,
Foreman.

November 13, 1865.

Mr. Justice CARGILL to Col. HUNT.

SIR, Spring Garden, November 16, 1865.

HEREWITH I beg leave to enclose a presentment of the Grand Jury of St. Ann's, which, as you will observe, I was requested to convey to his Excellency the Governor.

I am glad to say the St. Mary's and St. Anne's Circuit Courts have passed over quietly, and all the business has been concluded.

I have, &c.

Col. Hunt, (Signed) JASPER F. CARGILL.
Private Secretary and A.D.C.

To HIS HONOR JUDGE CARGILL,

WE the grand jurors of the parish of St. Ann's now assembled, beg to thank your Honor for your charge.

We with you are also gratified that at such a time as this the calendar contains so few cases, and comparatively of so trivial a character.

We likewise agree with your Honor in hoping that the Legislature now sitting may be guided by true wisdom in legislating for the future welfare of this Island.

We cannot separate withont respectfully requesting you to convey to his Excellency the Governor our sincere appreciation of the foresight, energy, and decision which have marked his conduct throughout the late unhappy rebellion, whereby in our humble opinion the lives and property of many loyal subjects have been saved.

(Signed) THOMAS B. SCOTT,
November 13, 1865. Foreman.

Wednesday, 8th November 1865.

Jamaica, ss.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this Her Majesty's island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the Legislative Council of Jamaica.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the Legislative Council of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for the speech with which you have opened the present session, one of the most important interest to the Colony, after the sad and solemn events to which your Excellency alludes.

While joining your Excellency in acknowledging the zealous and able services of his Excellency the General commanding the Forces, the senior naval officer, and of the military forces, as well as of the volunteers, we desire also to record our grateful thanks to your Excellency for the energy, firmness, and wisdom with which you have carried the Island through this momentous crisis. We are well aware that the slightest hesitation on your part would have been fraught with the most imminent danger to the lives of the loyal inhabitants throughout the Island; and we are well assured that all our loyal fellow colonists unite in the expression of gratitude which it is now our privilege to convey to you.

We have pleasure in bearing testimony with your Excellency to the fidelity and loyalty of the Maroons, and their prompt and useful services under Colonel Fyfe.

We entirely concur in the painful statement your Excellency has made, that there is scarcely a district throughout the Island where disloyalty, sedition, and murderous intentions are not widely disseminated and openly expressed. We agree with your Excellency as to the causes which have created the dangers that now threaten the country, and will heartily co-operate with you in endeavouring to remedy this grievous state of affairs.

Your Excellency may confidently rely upon our giving our best consideration to any measure tending to establish that strong and efficient government, so necessary for the well-being of this community; and we trust that the Almighty may guide our deliberations, and enable us, in co-operation with your Excellency and the other branch of the legislature, to secure the future safety, peace, and prosperity of the Colony.

Mercurii, 8° Novembris 1865.

Jamaica, ss.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this our island of Jamaica, and other the territories thereon depending in America, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, Her Majesty's loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the session.

We assure your Excellency that the advice and co-operation which you seek of the legislature, in a crisis consummated by rebellion, and which threatens, by a most diabolical conspiracy, the lives of the white and coloured inhabitants of the Colony, will not, on the part of this Assembly, be withheld.

We most readily acknowledge that while the thanks of the Island are due to his Excellency Major-General O'Connor, for the readiness and promptitude with which he met the occurrences of the

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outbreak, and no less to all the other civil, naval, and military authorities engaged in its suppression, as well as to the Maroons for their fidelity and loyalty, the gratitude of the Island is chiefly due to the unexampled skill, energy, and self-devotion which characterised all your Excellency's measures.

We desire to express our entire concurrence in your Excellency's statement, that to the misapprehensions and misrepresentations of pseudo-philanthropists in England, and in this country, to the inflammatory harangues and seditious meetings of political demagogues, to the personal, scurrilous, vindictive, and disloyal writings of a licentious and unscrupulous press, and to the misdirected efforts and misguided counsel of certain miscalled ministers of religion, is to be attributed the present disorganization of the Colony, resulting in rebellion, arson, and murder.

We cordially agree with your Excellency that this great wickedness cannot be attributed to any just grievances under which it can be said that the peasantry suffer; on the contrary, we entirely coincide with your Excellency in the opinion that they have advantages which the peasantry of no other country enjoy; and that it is to the causes to which your Excellency alludes that they have failed to reap the benefits of their position.

Deeply impressed with the full conviction that nothing but the existence of a strong Government can prevent this Island from lapsing into the condition of a second Hayti, we shall cheerfully take into consideration any measures recommended by your Excellency.

We feel ourselves bound in this emergency to aid (so far as the resources of the country will admit) the Government in all steps which may be necessary for insuring the security of the Colony, and the protection of life and property.

We fervently join Your Excellency in the prayer that Almighty God may so bless our united labours that they may tend to the establishment of lasting security for life and property, and largely promote the general welfare and prosperity of the Colony.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of this our Island of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Address of the Magistracy, Clergy, and other Inhabitants of the Parish of Trelawny.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned magistrates, clergymen, and other inhabitants of the parish of Trelawny, beg leave most respectfully and dutifully to represent to your Excellency the profound sorrow with which we received the intelligence of the late most wicked and unprovoked rebellion, against lawfully-constituted authority, of a large body of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, of the deplorable loss of life and property and suspension of business thereby occasioned, and of the necessity for the most severe measures for the suppression of insurrection.

We also desire to express to your Excellency that we have been deeply impressed with a sense of the magnitude of the danger to which the lives and the property of Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects throughout the entire Colony were, in consequence of this wicked rebellion, exposed; and that we deprecate the baneful results which must, we fear, necessarily follow, both in the internal affairs of the Island for many years to come, and which must injuriously affect its reputation abroad.

Sincerely sympathising with your Excellency in regard to the heavy responsibilities which were so suddenly and unexpectedly thrown upon your Excellency, and which we have the greatest pleasure in stating your Excellency discharged with so much wisdom, energy, promptitude, and decision of purpose—from no selfish consideration, but under a deep sense, we feel assured, of your Excellency's duty to our beloved Sovereign, to the loyal inhabitants of this Island, and all its best interests.

We beg to tender to your Excellency an expression of our heartfelt gratitude for the great services rendered to the whole Colony by your Excellency at this most critical conjuncture in its history; and we beg further to assure your Excellency of our own loyal devotion to our beloved Sovereign and the laws of this Island, and of our readiness to place our services at the command of your Excellency in whatever measures may be necessary for the preservation of life and property, and the peace and welfare of the Island at large.

We have the honour to remain,
Your Excellency's most humble and obedient Servants.
(Signed by ROBERT NUNES, Custos;
and by 164 others.)

To which his Excellency made the following Reply:—

MR. CUSTOS, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

IT would at all times afford me sincere pleasure to receive such a gratifying assurance of the good opinion and approval of the numerous and highly respectable and influential gentlemen of Trelawny who have signed the address presented to me by your respected Custos; but it comes doubly welcome to me at a time when the acts to which you refer, undertaken from a deep sense of my duty to my Sovereign and to the colonists of this Island, and with a full and anxious appreciation of the painful responsibility of my position, have been so maliciously misrepresented and so unjustly maligned by a section of the English press, and by parties at home who have no sympathies with their fellow-countrymen suffering under the atrocious barbarities inflicted by savages, because those savages have a black skin, though they do not hesitate to call the just retribution which overtook the ruthless rebels of St. Thomas-in-the-East by the names of "murder" and "massacre."

It was trying, enough, gentlemen, to have to encounter the harassing and anxious duty of putting down the rebellion, and taking steps to preserve peace and tranquillity in the other districts of the Colony; but it is very hard, and most unexpected, to have to rebut accusations founded upon exaggeration, misrepresentation, and untruth.

I shall have much pleasure in transmitting your address to Her Majesty's Government, as a proof that in the Island where the actual circumstances ought to be best known, and where the magnitude and imminency of the danger to the entire Colony can best be appreciated, that the foul aspersions disseminated by a portion of the English press are unjust and undeserved.

I thank you, gentlemen, most gratefully for your loyal address, and for the hearty expression of your willingness to co-operate with me in any measures necessary for the protection of life and property, and the peace and welfare of the Island at large. On my part, I would assure you that I shall ever be ready to do my duty faithfully, and will never shrink from assuming any amount of responsibility which the public safety requires me to undertake.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Address to Governor Eyre.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Address of the Magistrates, Clergy and other inhabitants of the parish of Clarendon.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned magistrates, clergy, and other inhabitants of the parish of Clarendon, deeply impressed with the sense of the immensity of the obligation under which we and other loyal and dutiful subjects of the island of Jamaica, stand indebted to Your Excellency for the promptitude, energy, and untiring exertion with which your Excellency suppressed the late wicked and unprovoked rebellion in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, thereby nipping in the bud a most diabolical conspiracy to murder all the white and colored inhabitants of the Colony, and so delivering ourselves from the repetition of the horrors enacted in the said parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, beg leave most respectfully to express to your Excellency our most heartful gratitude for the substantial services rendered to the Colony at this trying period, and our high appreciation of the judicious course pursued by your Excellency in quelling the insurrection, in protecting life and property, and in restoring peace and order among us, when any but such a decisive course would have added to the long list of killed and wounded numbers more of innocent victims, and would have been fraught with the most fearful consequences to the Island at large.

Thus deeply convinced of the dangers which so greatly threatened our land, and from which under the good providence of God we have been rescued by your Excellency, we feel impelled to acknowledge how largely we are indebted to your Excellency and accordingly to tender our humble and best thanks for the deliverance obtained for our country, and especially at a period like the present, when, in return for the heavy responsibilities assumed, and the self-denying exertion, and personal discomforts undergone by your Excellency, a strong opposition has been got up in the mother country against your Excellency, composed of a portion of the press and certain parties in which those very acts that have been the means, divinely blessed, of restoring our country to a state of order and tranquillity have been most maliciously inveighed against.

Most sincerely do we sympathize with your Excellency in regard to all the anxiety, discomforts, and additional trouble which this unhappy rebellion has caused your Excellency, and also in respect to the accusations brought against your Excellency in England, and against which we desire now to enter our solemn protest, as being unfounded, untruthful, and unjust, and as being highly calculated to incite to fresh acts of rebellion the disaffected subjects of this Island.

We beg leave further to congratulate your Excellency on the success of the measures adopted to quell the insurrection in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and on the approval which they have met with, not only in respect to every right thinking person in this land, but also in regard to Her Majesty's Government at home. And with the earnest prayer that your Excellency may long remain amongst us to administer the Government of this Island, and long be spared to enjoy the blessings of life and the good gifts of a gracious Providence,

We beg leave to remain,
Your Excellency's humble and obedient servants.
(Signed by FRANCIS LOWE, Custos;
and by 115 others.)

4th January 1866.

His Excellency's Reply.

REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you heartily for your address of sympathy with me, under the trying circumstances in which I have lately been placed by the occurrence of a most atrocious rebellion in the eastern provinces of the Island, and also for your generous protest against the unjust and calumnious aspersions cast upon me by a section of the English public, who, without a correct knowledge of the actual facts, have not hesitated to adopt any wild and absurd or unfounded statements which have been circulated either from their wantonness or for mischievous intentions.

I rejoice that the opportunity will soon occur of the British public being disabused of these exaggerations or untruths; and I feel sure that the generous manner in which you have come forward to denounce them will contribute largely to bring about this result, and to satisfy the English people that the

measures taken by the local government to put down rebellion, and, as far as practicable, ensure protection to life and property, were only such as the safety of the Colony imperatively required.

For your good wishes towards myself personally, I return you my very grateful acknowledgments.

Flamstead, 12th January, 1866.

St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Captain General and Governor of Jamaica.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, beg to express our deepest gratitude to your Excellency for the wise and energetic measures adopted by your Excellency on the occasion of the late rebellion.

We know that a fierce and bloody rising has been checked by your Excellency's prompt and decisive action, and we believe that peace and general returning confidence, so very desirable in this our moment of distress, would have been more rapidly acquired, were it not for the speeches and writings of certain notoriously prejudiced persons in England, who know but little of the particulars of the late sad events; but we sincerely trust that justice will be done, and that is all we ask, for there can be no doubt that it is to your Excellency, and others who so nobly carried out your instructions, we owe our lives and properties.

We have heard, with a mixture of pain and pleasure, that your Excellency is about to leave the Island; pain, because we shall be deprived of so able a head and so ready an arm to crush any further any attempt; pleasure, because it will enable your Excellency, by your presence and expression in England, successfully to refute the many scandals heaped on yourself and the authorities here, and with a sincere hope that your services may meet their just reward from our good and gracious Sovereign.

(Signed by Samuel Rennalls, Custos;
and by 38 others.)

To the Honourable Samuel Rennalls, Custos, the Rev. John Campbell, Rector, Hiam Barron and Edward Kinkead, Esquires, and other inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-Vale.

Mr. Custos, Reverend Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

I receive with much pleasure your cordial address expressing your approval of the course taken by me to put down the late wicked and unprovoked rebellion, and your belief that the prompt and decisive manner in which it was crushed has conduced to preserve the Colony from a fierce and bloody rising of a more extensive and general character.

I quite share in your belief, and I feel fully convinced, that when the labors of the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the circumstances of the late rebellion are terminated it will be abundantly shown how great and how imminent has been the peril from which the Colony, by God's blessing, has escaped.

For your kind wishes towards myself personally I feel deeply grateful; and I beg to assure you that, whatever may be my future sphere of action, my best wishes will always be with you for the welfare and prosperity of Jamaica, and of all to whom it is a home.

Flamstead, 22nd Jan. 186. (Signed) E. Eyre.

Address to Governor Eyre from the parish of Portland.

Port Antonio, Jamaica, 1st January 1866.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

We, the magistrates, clergy, and other inhabitants of the parish of Portland, beg leave to approach your Excellency with the deepest feelings of gratitude for the aid afforded us at a time when the lives of ourselves and families were in the most imminent danger from the approach of the blood-stained rebels engaged in the insurrection which lately broke out in the neighbouring parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

But for the timely assistance afforded us (doubtless under the direction of an all-wise and merciful Providence) by the arrival at Port Antonio, on the 15th October, of H. M. S. "Wolverine," with your Excellency, and the military and naval forces which accompanied you, we have every reason to believe (and the evidence adduced at the court-martial which assembled here to try prisoners bears us out in the belief) that the rebels would have rapidly come down upon us, gathering strength as they approached, and Port Antonio might have witnessed similar painful atrocities to those perpetrated at Morant Bay and its vicinity.

We would also take this opportunity of recording our admiration at the skill, energy, and promptitude displayed on this trying occasion by your Excellency, and the gallant officers who acted in concert with you, both in the disposal of the very limited military and naval forces then at command, and also the further distribution throughout and around the Island of the increased number of troops and ships which have since arrived to our assistance. To this judicious arrangement, no doubt, is to be attributed the effective check that has been given to the spirit of the rebellion which has generally

pervaded the Island, and contemplated the massacre of the whole of the white and coloured inhabitants, and the appropriation of their property.

We look forward with hopeful anticipation in regard to the change which is about to take place in our political constitution, and earnestly and sincerely trust that under the wise direction of the British Government, our unfortunate Island may be restored to peace and prosperity, and that your Excellency and family may be spared in the enjoyment of health and happiness to witness the realization of this our sanguine hope and expectation.

(Signed by JOHN S. CLACHAR, M.D., Senior Magistrate; and by 99 others.)

To JOHN SHEA CLACHAR, Esquire, M.D., the Reverend WILLIAM SMITH, Rector, A. ESCOFFERY, GEORGE FFRENCH, W. WEMYSS ANDERSON, Esquires, and other inhabitants of the Parish of Portland.

REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I RECEIVE with much pleasure the address of the magistrates, clergy, and other inhabitants of Portland, expressive of your gratitude for the steps taken to intercept and put down the insurrectionary movement which, commencing at Morant Bay, had in three days and a half reached nearly to Port Antonio.

Placed as you were in the direct line of the wave of rebellion, and hourly expecting its approach, you are well able to judge of the imminent peril which existed, and of the absolute necessity for the most immediate and severe measures being resorted to in order to check its further progress.

I quite believe with you that, had assistance been delayed for only a few hours, any subsequent help would have been too late to have saved your lives and properties from savage and infuriated rebels. We all owe a debt of lasting gratitude to the untiring exertions of our gallant sailors and soldiers, which under God's merciful Providence averted this dire calamity, and checked the extension of the rebellion to the westward.

It is a great gratification to me to know that, almost contemporaneously with the arrest of the rebellion in the districts where it broke out, the Government was enabled by the arrival of additional naval and military forces to make such arrangements for the protection of the rest of the Island as effectually prevented those further risings from taking place which, I fully believe, would otherwise have ensued.

I join with you in hoping that the change in the constitution about to be introduced will lead to future good government, and largely promote the welfare and prosperity of the Colony.

For your friendly wishes towards myself and family accept my most grateful thanks.

ST. ANN.

The Honourable CHARLES ROYES, Custos of St. Ann, to Governor EYRE.

MY DEAR SIR, Windsor, St. Ann's, 12th January 1866.

MY fellow parishoners have honored me by the request that I will forward to your Excellency the accompanying address expressive of their gratitude and esteem, a duty I discharge with much pleasure. A copy of it is being signed in other parts of the parish, and the signatures thereto will be forwarded in due course to be appended to the one now enclosed.

I regret that unavoidable circumstances prevent my presenting it in person.

It must be gratifying and consolatory to your Excellency, amid the cruelly unjust invectives with which you are now assailed, to find that the inhabitants of a parish so extensive, populous, and loyal as St. Ann's appreciate to the fullest extent the eminent services you have rendered them.

Permit me the honour to remain, &c.

His Excellency
E. J. Eyre, Esq.

(Signed) CHARLES ROYES,
Custos St. Ann.

To his Excellency EDWARD J. EYRE, Governor and Captain General.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned magistrates, clergymen, vestrymen, and other inhabitants of the parish of Saint Ann, beg most respectfully to tender to your Excellency our grateful thanks for the firmness, promptitude, and decision with which your Excellency met and, under Divine Providence, subdued the late alarming rebellion in Saint Thomas-in-the-East.

We feel assured that to the wise and energetic measures adopted by your Excellency, aided by the devotedness and gallantry of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, we owe the preservation of peace in other districts, for had these failed in the least degree the rebellion would have extended throughout the land.

We deeply sympathise with your Excellency in the grave responsibilities and onerous duties that have so unexpectedly devolved on you, and it is with pain and regret we notice the exaggerations and misrepresentations with which you are now assailed. We are, however, confident that when a strict investigation into the circumstances of the late lamentable insurrection takes place it will be found to have been wholly unprovoked, and your Excellency's character and conduct will stand forth in the clear light of truth untarnished and above reproach.

We take this opportunity of expressing our unswerving loyalty to our beloved Queen, our earnest desire to promote the peace and prosperity of our unhappy country, our attachment and esteem to your Excellency, and repeating our appreciation of your eminent services.

We remain, &c.

(Signed by CHARLES ROYES,
Custos and Member of the Privy Council;
and by 114 others.)

To the Honorable CHARLES ROYES, Custos, the Honorable PETER MONCRIEFFE, the Honorable C. C. BRAVO, the Reverend F. S. BRADSHAW, L.L.D., Rector, and other inhabitants of the parish of St. Ann.

MR. CUSTOS, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you sincerely for your address sympathising with me under the heavy responsibilities and duties which have devolved upon me during the late crisis in Jamaica, expressing your appreciation of my conduct under that emergency, and conveying to me your continued confidence and esteem.

It is gratifying to me to know that so large a portion of the inhabitants of the extensive and loyal parish of St. Ann appreciate the difficulties under which I was placed, and the necessity for prompt and decisive action.

With you, gentlemen, I feel assured that the inquiry which Her most Gracious Majesty has been pleased to direct will result in removing from the public mind the unjust and unfounded impressions which have been entertained or propagated by persons at home, who had only a very partial and imperfect knowledge of what are the actual circumstances that have transpired.

Accept my warmest acknowledgments for the expression of your unswerving loyalty to our beloved Queen, and of your earnest desire to promote the peace and prosperity of the Colony.

Flamstead, 22d Jan. 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica, &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned inhabitants of the parish of Westmoreland, beg respectfully to express to your Excellency the satisfaction we feel from the continuance of peace and tranquillity generally throughout the Colony, during a period in which we had reason to fear, from discoveries made in the recent lamentable insurrection in St. Thomas-in-the-East, that a great and general danger was to be apprehended. We are happy to assure your Excellency that in this part of the Island a loyal and peaceable feeling seems now generally to prevail, and that the labouring population are willingly engaged in their usual avocations. And we are of opinion that this result has been largely promoted by the judicious measures taken by your Excellency's Government for the preservation of peace during a time of great excitement and alarm.

Whilst we deplore the great loss of life and property arising from this wicked insurrection, we are firmly of opinion that both energy and severity were necessary for its instant suppression, and to ensure its confinement within the immediate locality of the outbreak, whilst it is equally certain that the most terrible results would have attended its spread throughout other portions of the Island, then almost entirely unprotected. And we cannot remain insensible to the fact that the personal presence and exertions of your Excellency in the disturbed districts was a conspicuous instance of that quality of mind which has induced your Excellency not to shrink from any personal inconvenience or responsibility when urged by duty,

We regret that the measures adopted for the suppression of this improvoked insurrection should be so misconstrued by a portion of the British public, who seem unaware of the actual state of society existing here, and of the easily excitable disposition of that portion of the population whose social condition is unimproved by a regular course of honest industry, equally ignorant also of the fact that nothing prevents an equality in the political status of the negro, if he is possessed of intelligence, perseverance, and honesty. But we indulge in the conviction that such opinions will soon be reversed on further information being made known, and your wise and energetic measures in a moment of great trial and responsibility be appreciated as they deserve.

Anxious as we have hitherto been to aid your Excellency locally in the preservation of the public peace and the due administration of the laws, we desire to assure your Excellency of a continuance of these sentiments, and of your devoted loyalty to the throne of our beloved Sovereign.

And with esteem,

We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed by BENJ. VICKERS, Custos;
and by 133 others.)

To the Honorable BENJAMIN VICKERS, Custos, the Reverend JOSIAH CORK, Rector, JOSEPH STONE WILLIAMS, and W. N. FURQUHARSON, Esquires, and other inhabitants of the parish of Westmoreland.

MR. CUSTOS, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, and GENTLEMEN,

ACCEPT my most grateful thanks for your loyal and cordial address, expressing your views in reference to the late unhappy disturbances in the Eastern districts of the Colony.

You are quite right in supposing that the Executive felt impelled to the most prompt and severe measures to repress a wide spread and destructive insurrection, from a consideration of the unprotected state of the whole Island, from a knowledge of the inadequate means at the disposal of the Government to provide for the safety of life and property throughout so extensive an area, and from a conviction that such was the state of the country generally that any hesitation, delay, or failure would inevitably have led to further outbreaks, and have entailed upon the community an incalculable amount of suffering and loss.

That the steps taken were successful is a gratifying assurance to myself and to those who so ably seconded me, that we did our duty; and in feeling this we can view without anxiety, though not without deep regret, the unfounded aspersions which have been cast upon us by a section of the English press and public, feeling assured that the inquiry now about to be instituted by Her Majesty's Royal Commission will show how unjust and how un-English has been the course of those who have condemned the absent unheard, and without that knowledge of events and of surrounding circumstances which alone could enable any one to form a just opinion.

For the renewed expression of your good feelings and loyalty I thank you very sinerely.

I have, &c.

Flamstead, 22nd January 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica.

SIR,

WE, the undersigned inhabitants of Jamaica, hasten to express our deep indignation at the misrepresentations which have been made by some public men and public writers in England, in condemnation of your Excellency's conduct during the recent rebellion.

We cordially agree in the sentiments expressed in the addresses of the Legislative Council and the Assembly, to the effect that to your Excellency's measures in the suppression of the rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East is due the present (apparent) safety of other parishes of the Island, and the gratitude of the colonists.

We do not doubt that those measures which, under God's Providence, crushed out that rebellion in one parish, arrested its extension to other parishes wherein the seeds of disaffection had been widely spread amongst the lower orders of the population.

We cannot avoid the expression of our deep regret that there could be found in England men capable of commiserating the deaths of murderers and traitors, while they can in their public speeches and writings find no single word to utter in sympathy for any of those who have been wounded, or for life disabled, or brutally massacred in the public service, or for the widows and orphans of those who have so nobly fallen in defence of Queen and country.

Your Excellency may rest assured that, if there can be found in England men, who for the sake of political purposes, will not hesitate to make capital out of rebellion and murder, the vast majority not only of Englishmen in Her Most Gracious Majesty's wide-spread dominions, but also of the rest of the civilized world, will heartily join with us, the colonists of Jamaica, in deep sympathy with Her Most Gracious Majesty's Representative in this Colony, and Her Majesty's military, naval, volunteer, and civil authorities, during this momentous crisis, and in utter detestation and abhorrence of the recent atrocities committed by the lower orders, at the instigation of demagogues and fanatics, while in the full enjoyment of all the blessings and freedom of the British rule.

(Signed by G. M. LAWSON, Hampden Estate, Member of the Council; and by about 2,400 others.)

To the Custodes, Ministers of Religion, Magistrates, and other Inhabitants of Jamaica.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, and GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you heartily for your address expressing the sentiments of so many of the influential inhabitants of Jamaica in relation to the late rebellion in the eastern districts.

It is most gratifying to me to know that those who, from being resident in the Colony at the time, are best able to appreciate the danger which threatened the Island, and the steps taken to meet that danger, dissent from the views expressed by a section of the press and of the public in England, founded as those views have been upon an imperfect knowledge of the actual circumstances, and upon mis-statements and misrepresentations of the grossest kind.

I do not doubt but that the Commission of Inquiry which Her Majesty's Government has been pleased to appoint to investigate the whole subject will place the occurrences which took place, and the steps taken by the local Government, in a true and just point of view before the British public.

Nor do I doubt but that when this is done it will be abundantly manifest that the action taken by the Government to protect the Colony from a peril which threatened to overwhelm it was necessary, just, and merciful, as a whole.

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It is inseparable from a state of warfare and the existence of martial law that many evils and occurrences which are not always justifiable should take place. These can only be regretted. They could neither be known to nor controlled by the authorities. I trust, however, that even these exceptional cases will be found to be very few, considering the magnitude of the emergency, the small means of meeting it, and the pressure which the urgent circumstances of the moment created.

I thank you sincerely for the extension of your sympathy to me and those who acted under me, in the difficult and trying circumstances in which we were placed,—circumstances which have been rendered still more trying by the un-English course taken by an influential section of our fellow countrymen at home.

I have, &c.

Flamstead, January 22, 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

Mr. MAIS to Governor EYRE.

SIR, Parish of Port Royal, Halbertstadt, January 19, 1866.

IT affords me considerable pleasure in having the honor of forwarding to your Excellency an address cordially signed by a numerous and respectable class of my parishioners.

The testimony borne by this and other parishes of your Excellency's conduct in the suppression of the late rebellion at Morant Bay must be highly satisfactory, refuting as it does the wicked and un-English attempts to throw blame upon acts that have so justly called forth heartfelt thanks.

To your Excellency's prompt and energetic conduct I feel that we owe our present existence. Had the reverse been your line of action, and tampering and hesitation been adopted, the rebellion would have spread, and in a general revolt few would have lived to have related the sad events.

Misrepresentation and falsehood have jointly been used against your Excellency, and a portion of the English press have put forth statements that, in the absence of facts, are very startling. But, Sir, with a high feeling of having conscientiously performed a most difficult and responsible duty, and with truth on your side, you will ultimately triumph over the pitiful attempt to injure your reputation as a ruler.

During this crisis, and in your present painful position, it is consolatory to feel that your Excellency enjoys the respect and esteem of a large portion of the inhabitants of this Colony, who anticipate that the reward you so justly deserve will yet be bestowed upon you by our beloved Queen.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN W. MAIS,

His Excellency Governor Eyre, &c. &c. Custos of the Parish of Port Royal.

Mr. CARTER to Mr. JORDON.

SIR, St. Ann's Bay, January 2, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to enclose an address to his Excellency the Governor from the peasantry of St. Ann, signed by 120 heads of families, numbering in all 340, which, on their behalf, I beg you will lay before his Excellency.

In tame and simple language they have expressed their thanks to the Government for the restoration of peace, and stated plainly their views of the late unfortunate outbreak.

These people are by no means ignorant of what they now say and do. I have gone amongst them, and I know their feelings and sentiments on the subject; and, judging from the very ready manner they have come forward to contribute their names, I feel certain that had my time permitted the list might have swelled to a far greater number.

I have, &c.

The Hon. E. Jordon, C.B. (Signed) RICHARD CARTER, J. P. St. Ann.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned labourers, in the behalf of ourselves, our families, and fellow labourers of the parish of St. Ann, take the opportunity, after the very painful occurrences that have recently transpired in the eastern district of the Island, respectfully to tender our grateful thanks to your Excellency, and to the authorities acting under you, for the happy restoration of peace and order, and for our deliverance from the great dangers which threatened the entire Island.

We have all been deeply pained at hearing that numbers of our countrymen and fellow labourers residing in Saint Thomas-in-the-East had by foolish and mistaken views, and in violation of the laws of the country, risen up in open rebellion, and have been guilty of acts which we shudder to learn of, the barbarity of which is only equalled by their madness and folly. No persons of right mind can delight in war. It is an evil that carries with it desolation and death ; it sets families in total disorder; it breaks up comfortable homes ; it unavoidably causes the innocent to suffer with the guilty; and it brings ruin upon a country. Whilst we deplore the loss of so many lives, we thank God that in His good providence He hath preserved this and other parishes from such misery; and under Him, our esteemed governor, and others acting under his authority, have been able so effectually to crush this cruel rebellion, and thus saved us and our dear families. And we feel it a duty we owe to thank our governor and other authorities for the work they have done, and for restoring peace and order in the Island

We confess that as a people we are highly favored. We are governed by the best of sovereigns; we have just laws, which protect alike the white and the black man; and the labouring man who is blessed with good health and strong limbs may find himself happy and comfortable within that sphere Providence hath allotted to him.

If it be true, as we learn, that our countrymen of the East who rose up in rebellion were persons well to do in life, and possessed of comfortable homes, good provision fields, and plenty of small stock, then we consider that the outbreak was the more foolish and wanton; and we can only say, that by their acts they have brought shame upon the whole labouring body of this Island.

We do not believe that our own parish is free of bad men, who would delight in an opportunity for plunder and other mischief (and we shall be careful to keep a watchful eye upon all such dangerous characters); yet as a parish we have always preserved a name for good behaviour. This good order of things in this parish, we believe, is owing greatly to our being under the guidance of faithful and intelligent religious teachers, as well as to that universal kindness from employers which civility and obedience on the part of the employed never fail to ensure.

We fear that our countrymen of St. Thomas-in-the-East have not been careful in seeking the good opinion of those above them, nor have they been careful in inviting among themselves teachers other than "the blind leaders of the blind."

We feel it a duty demanded of us, even as humble labourers, to do what in us lies in bearing up the hands of our governor, and in upholding the laws and institutions of the country. We beg to repeat our thanks to the Government for the prompt and effectual measures taken in the late outbreak, and we pray that so long as your Excellency shall continue among us your administration might be both pleasant to yourself and prosperous to the Island.

We sincerely wish Heaven's best blessings upon your Excellency and family; and as loyal subjects we add, God bless our Queen, and long may She reign over us.

We remain,
Your Excellency's
Humble and obedient servants.
(Then follow 120 signatures.)

To Messrs. THOMAS BARNETT, W. BERRY, HENRY WILLIAMS, and other labourers of the parish of St. Ann.

MY FRIENDS,

I RECEIVE with much satisfaction the address presented to me by the peasantry of St. Ann's, stating your deep abhorrence of the acts of rapine and bloodshed which have recently devastated the eastern parishes of this Colony, and expressing your desire to strengthen the hands of the governor, and uphold the laws and institutions of the country. Rest assured, my friends, that the interests of all classes depend upon the preservation of peace and good order, and that neither individual nor general prosperity can exist without it.

Your parish has always, and I believe deservedly, enjoyed the reputation of being a loyal one; and if the sentiments expressed in your address were generally entertained and acted upon by the labouring classes, I feel sure they would become as well to do and as happy as any peasantry in the world.

I thank you sincerely for the good opinion you express of the steps taken to put down and prevent the spread of the late atrocious outbreak.

A heavy responsibility rested upon me, and a most painful duty had to be discharged; but at a crisis of such magnitude severity became a mercy, and I cannot doubt but that the prompt and stern justice dealt out to those in rebellion against their Queen has, under God's blessing, been the means of preventing many other parishes of the Island from becoming the theatre of occurrences similar to those which took place at Morant Bay.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Flamstead, 12th January 1866.

ST. GEORGE'S VOLUNTEERS.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the captain, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the Saint George's Volunteer Rifle Corps, beg leave most respectfully to address ourselves to your Excellency with regard to the late insurrection in the parish of Saint Thomas-in-the-East in this Island.

We feel confident that, had your Excellency not taken such very prompt and effective measures for the extinction of the blood-thirsty rebellion in the district to which it was first confined, it would have spread seriously throughout the country. The disaffection of the people proved this. The general remarks of revenge, delight, and wish for massacre, uttered by many in this and neighbouring parishes, proved that, had the rebels of the East been permitted to go their rounds of the country unchecked, their numbers would be greatly augmented, their amount of massacres, arsons, and plunders seriously enhanced.

We peruse with surprise the tone of the English press in giving their opinions in this matter,—opinions formed on no reliable basis, and having no reliable data. But we are sanguine that, had those same enunciators of condemnatory opinion been near the scene of bloodshed, and at the site of danger, they would one and all ascribe to your Excellency and other officers in action with you during the momentous

crisis, great foresight and tact, moderation and justice, as we who are near to the unfortunate outbreak now do.

It is our earnest wish to impress upon your Excellency that your measures taken during the insurrection have given general satisfaction; and we sincerely hope and trust that after all the facts shall have been placed before the British public, they will have cause to change the tone of their opinions from one of invective and misrepresentation to those of truth, and the awarding of praise to those to whom it is due for meritorious conduct during a trying emergency.

We ascribe ourselves, &c.,

(Signed) Edwd. Skyers, Captain St. Geo. V.R. Corps.
Thos. Engleton, Sen. Sergeant.
E. Lecky Skyers, Sergt.
Edw. N. Skyers, Serg. and Secy.
John G. King, 2nd Sergeant.
Philip K. Dunbar, Corporal.
And by 48 others.

Captain Skyers and Volunteers of the St. George's Volunteer Rifle Corps.

I thank you sincerely for your address, and for the good feeling which it evinces in reference to the late unhappy events in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I do assure you that I regard it as a most providential interposition that the exertions of Her Majesty's military and naval forces, ably seconded by the volunteers of Jamaica, were enabled so promptly to put down and punish a most savage and blood-thirsty insurrection, and thereby avert from other parishes the terrible calamity which befel the eastern districts of the Island.

(Signed) E. Eyre.

Flamstead, 12th January 1866.

The Rev. Samuel Oughton to Governor Eyre.

Baptist Mission House, East Queen Street, Kingston,
January 22, 1866.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

It is with much pleasure that in acknowledging your favour of the 19th instant I forward the enclosed address, which would have been forwarded earlier but for the non-receipt for several days of your previous favour, and subsequently by the expressed desire of a few friends, not present at our original meeting, to add their signatures to an address so fully conveying their sentiments; and I believe it now contains the signature of every dissenting minister in Kingston.

I can only assure your Excellency that it was most carefully considered, and is the result of our united judgment; the only point on which we felt any desire to make an alteration being the reference to your Excellency's reported intention to leave our Island, and visit England, which appeared in the Island papers. We have however deemed it as well to let it remain as originally drawn.

If not objectionable to your Excellency, we should wish to publish the address, with your Excellency's reply, and, if possible, in time to transmit copies by the present mail, and I should be obliged by your approval of our adopting that course.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Samuel Oughton.

From Missionaries and Ministers of the Gospel.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned missionaries and ministers of the Gospel in Kingston, feel that we should not be true to ourselves as public teachers, or to the churches under our charge, did we permit your Excellency to leave this Island without the expression of our most heartfelt sympathy with yourself in the very difficult and trying circumstances in which you have been placed.

Sufficiently removed from the more immediate scene of action to be able with some degree of calmness to judge of its real nature, whilst sufficiently near to feel the emergency of the case, we cannot but express our most solemn conviction that to your Excellency's prompt, energetic, and decisive measures we owe it that the scenes of Morant Bay were not enacted throughout the Island.

Unbiassed by political feelings, and with no party to serve, we feel ourselves the more free to express our conviction, from the evidences of our own observations, as well as from the official and other sources of information open to us, that a spirit of insubordination to law has long existed among a large portion of the population of this Island, and that lately the teachings of ignorant and wicked men have served to fan the flame into sedition.

We know not what evidences there may be of an organized conspiracy; and if there were any, we are satisfied that it was by no means universal amongst the labouring population. But in the state of our community we feel convinced that the slightest indecision, delay, or miscarriage in dealing with the first spark of rebellion as exhibited at Morant Bay would have caused the spread of civil war throughout the Island.

Under such circumstances we would record our firm conviction that the most energetic and stringent and even severe measures which the Constitution placed within your Excellency's power were

necessary for the protection and safety of Her Majesty's peaceful and law-abiding subjects in this Colony, and we would gratefully recognize the hand of Providence in placing at the head of affairs one who so vigorously and effectively determined to do his duty to the utmost in that time of imminent peril.

Without expressing any opinion on isolated acts, and regretting the great loss of life that has occurred, involving, we fear, to some extent the innocent with the guilty, we would nevertheless cordially express our conviction that the general policy pursued by your Excellency was absolutely necessary to meet the exigencies of the case, and was dictated simply by a sense of duty and of the responsibility which rested on you at a period of such alarm and extreme danger.

At the same time we would also express our regret at the unqualified censure pronounced by a large portion of the British press, arguing at a distance from our Island, and manifestly deplorably ignorant of its population and condition; and whilst we would sympathize with your Excellency as to the unfair criticism of your acts, and the improper imputation of motives, we cannot refrain from also recording our feeling that the sentiments so expressed in England are already producing a most mischievous influence on our population, and are likely when fully circulated to go far not only to reproduce the scenes of massacre which we all so much deplore, but also to paralyze the efforts of those in authority.

Trusting that your Excellency, with your lady and family, may be preserved by our Heavenly Father, and may enjoy a safe and prosperous voyage, and that your future career may be one of prosperity and happiness in whatever position your Excellency may be placed,

We have, &c.,

(Signed) JONATHAN EDMONDSON, Genl. Supdt. of Wesleyan Missions, 31 years in this Island.
JAMES WATSON, Presbyterian minister, East Queen Street, 40 years in the Island.
SAMUEL OUGHTON, Baptist minister, East Queen Street 30 years in the Island.
JOHN THOMPSON, Baptist minister, Mount Charles, 26 years in the Island.
WILLIAM HOLDSWORTH, Wesleyan minister, 19 years in the Island.
WILLIAM JAMES GARDNER London Missionary Society, 17 years in the Island.
WILLIAM GRIFFITHS, Methodist Free Church, 5 years in the Island.
JOHN RADCLIFFE, Church of Scotland, 17 years in the Island.
A. J. MILNE, M.A., Assistant Minister of the Church of Scotland, Principal of the Collegiate School, and Inspector of Wolmer's Schools, 10 years in the Island.
ENOS NUTTALL, Wesleyan Minister, 3 years in the Island.
ELISHA PENROSE, Methodist Free Church, 12 years in the Island.

January 6th, 1866.

To the Revd. JONATHAN EDMONDSON, the Revd. JAMES WATSON, the Revd. SAMUEL OUGHTON, the Revd. JOHN THOMPSON, the Revd. WM. HOLDSWORTH, the Revd. WM. GARDNER, the Revd. WM. GRIFFITHS, the Revd. J. RADCLIFFE, the Revd. A. J. MILNE, M. A., the Revd. ENOS NUTTALL, and the Revd. ELISHA PENROSE.

REVEREND GENTLEMEN,

ACCEPT my heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy you extend to me under the difficult and trying circumstances in which I have been placed, and for the valuable testimony you bear to the necessity for the most prompt and decisive measures being taken to put down a rebellion which, having in three days and a half extended from Morant Bay forty miles in one direction and twenty in another, required but a few days longer to overrun a great portion of the Colony, spreading destruction and desolation in its course.

In crushing out so formidable an outbreak it became my painful duty to exercise a severity which, whilst justly punishing the guilty, might terrify the seditious and evil disposed of other districts, and restrain them from making any similar attempts; and if in the steps taken to effect this object some isolated acts of wrong or injustice have occurred, I can only say they were unknown to me, and could not be controlled by the executive; and I trust too they will be found to be only such as are inseparable from a state of warfare and the existence of martial law—both great evils in themselves—but forced upon the Government by a peril which, if not promptly arrested, would have endangered the entire Colony.

I can only assure you, gentlemen, that I have been actuated by the single desire to do my duty to my Queen and to the people of this Island. And amidst all the misrepresentations and censures which have so unsparingly and unjustly been heaped upon me by those who, being at a distance from the danger, could neither realize its magnitude, nor the smallness of the means available to meet it, I have the innate satisfaction of feeling that I did that duty faithfully, and the proud conviction that in doing it I averted from Jamaica a general and sanguinary war.

For your good feelings towards myself and family personally, I tender you my sincere thanks; and I

JAMAICA.

do assure you that, whatever may be my future career, my best wishes will be always with you for the welfare and prosperity of the Colony, and for the individual and general happiness of all connected with it.

I have, &c.

Flamstead, 22d Jan. 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

ADDRESS of the CLERGY to his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica.

SIR,

WE, the undersigned clergymen of this Island, feel strongly called upon at the present crisis to express our deep sympathy with your Excellency, and our utter condemnation of the hasty and uncharitable judgment passed upon you. We feel the utmost indignation at the attacks made upon you by a portion of the British press, by persons who are incapable of appreciating the dangers and difficulties of our position,—who, falling into the very error they would condemn, are clamouring for the punishment of persons whose crimes exist only in their imaginations.

We fully share in the conviction, general in this Island, that your promptness, decision, and energy have, under God's blessing, saved Jamaica from probable ruin; and we would hope that the time is not far distant when many of those who have been led to join in unfair attacks upon your Excellency will be convinced of their error, and will be forward to acknowledge that they have grievously wronged you.

Those of us who have had the privilege of private intercourse with your Excellency are prepared to testify that never were charges of injustice or inhumanity more inappropriate than those with which your detractors have assailed you, but rather that decision, kindness, and humanity have uniformly characterised your conduct.

The lasting gratitude of the Colony will, we believe, follow your Excellency for your successful endeavours to bestow on us a form of government calculated to ensure peace and security, and to promote the welfare of all classes of the community; and our individual prayer will attend your Excellency, Mrs. Eyre, and your family. May the blessings of the Almighty grant you a happy issue out of all your difficulties, and a long future of successful administration as a Colonial Governor, and, whenever it may be needful, an honourable repose from the arduous toils of high office, brightened by the remembrance that, in the opinion of those best able to judge, you have faithfully done your duty.

We are, &c.,

(Signed REGINALD KINGSTON,
and by 74 others.)

MY LORD BISHOP and REVEREND GENTLEMEN,

I DEEPLY appreciate and value the cordial address of sympathy with which the clergy of the Colony have so generously come forward to support me by the expression of your good opinion and confidence at a time when my public character has been unjustly assailed, through a section of the British press, by persons who had no means of judging of the circumstances in which I was placed, and who have been un-English enough to condemn me almost unheard.

In thanking you for your testimony that injustice and inhumanity are not traits in my character, I can honestly assure you that it has even been my endeavour during my residence amongst you to act with all the kindness and consideration compatible with the responsibility attaching to me; but I should have been unworthy of the high position I hold, and of the confidence reposed in me by our most Gracious Sovereign, if I had shrunk from a painful duty when it became necessary to punish most severely insurrection and outrage, and thereby save the Colony from all the horrors of a general rebellion.

Most heartily do I concur with you in hoping that the change about to be made in the form of Government of this Island will tend to promote the general welfare and prosperity, and that it may gradually bring about a renewed feeling of confidence, security, and good will amongst all classes of the community.

I thank you sincerely for your warm-hearted wishes on behalf of myself, Mrs. Eyre, and our children. We shall always value very highly your remembrance of us in your prayers; and I do assure you that, whatever may be our future lot, we shall ever gratefully remember the kindness and goodfeeling of the clergy of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

Port Antonio, January 1, 1866.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica, &c. &c.

WE, the undersigned of Portland and Manchioneal, desire to tender our grateful thanks to your Excellency for the prompt assistance and protection we received from you (personally) in our hour of direful and extreme peril. As women we must ever pray for your Excellency's welfare; for if the men return thanks for their lives alone, we return ours to you for saving us from every indignity a female most dreads, and which during those perilous days that elapsed between the fearful massacre at Morant Bay and the appearance of the "Wolverine" at Port Antonio, formed the dreadful subject of thought to most of us.

Next to the great and good God, to your Excellency we owe the preservation of all most dear to us. Many had fled from their distant homes at hardly an hour's warning, with hearts panting within them at the frightful news of the savage cruelties practised on dear friends. Terror lent courage, strength, and resolution to encounter danger and fatigue. They feared for their honour and lives, and dreaded the cruelties which threatened fathers, brothers, and husbands; some were to be beheaded, and others chopped to pieces. On reaching Port Antonio the people from Manchioneal found that, owing to there being no ammunition in the place, it could not then be defended; they then, with the inhabitants, and those of the surrounding properties, hastened on board the American Barque "Reunion," Captain Tracy. May the Almighty bless him for his kindness to us all that sought protection on board his vessel.

On board the "Reunion" a poor wretched worn-out group welcomed your Excellency on Sunday morning, the 15th October. The inhabitants who did not take refuge on board the "Reunion" went on board the "Son," Captain Murdock (a fine schooner), at that time in Port Antonio, and which vessel, as well as the "Reunion," put to sea on Friday night, and from the deck of these vessels Mulatto River (Mr. Hinchelwood's property) was seen in flames.

Words strong enough to express our feelings fail us in attempting to return thanks to your Excellency and your noble-hearted officers. We can only pray that the choicest blessings may be poured on your heads by the just and gracious Father of us all, the Divine and only Searcher of our hearts. We shall never in memory revert to that time without feelings of enthusiastic gratitude stirring our hearts towards your Excellency and those under your command, for your humanity and promptness in hastening to our aid. Had you not come by that time we have every reason, from what the deluded beings confessed, to think our lives would have passed away amidst indignities and horrors too fearful to contemplate; from these bitter sorrows your timely arrival saved us. That the great God of all nations and colours may bless and protect our earthly deliverers will be the united prayer of those that you saved from calamities the most direful that human nature could be called on to bear.

(Signed by ELIZA A. ORGIL,
and by 237 other ladies.)

LADIES of the parish of Portland and the district of Manchioneal,

IT is very gratifying to me to receive your kind and warm-hearted address, expressing your sense of the imminent danger from which, in conjunction with the other inhabitants of Portland and Manchioneal, you were preserved by the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Wolverine" at Port Antonio on the morning of Sunday the 15th of October, and your thankfulness to those who were the instruments of your preservation.

Deeply sympathising with you under all the losses, sufferings, anxieties, and suspense to which you were subjected during the first three days of the rebellion, I assure you that it is a source of the greatest satisfaction to me that, by God's blessing, and the untiring exertions of Her Majesty's naval and military forces, I was enabled to arrive in time to save you from the still more terrible fate which appeared to be impending.

May God in His mercy avert from you and from the Colony any similar occurrence, and may He restore that peace and confidence which have been so savagely interrupted.

Accept my grateful thanks for your good feelings towards myself and family, and my heartfelt and best wishes that the Almighty may preserve, bless, and prosper each of you, and all dear to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

TO EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esq., Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Island of Jamaica.

The humble Address of the Ladies of the parish of Manchester.

SIR,

WE, the undersigned ladies of the parish of Manchester, beg leave respectfully to present to you this expression of our sense of your Excellency's conduct during the late rebellion, and to offer to you our heartfelt sympathies in the trying position in which you are placed.

We naturally shrink from leaving the sphere of our homes, and even approaching the threshold of politics, but we were thrown into the utmost consternation at learning the sad fate of the ladies of St. Thomas-in-the-East; women sadly awaiting their doom in their respective homes, while their husbands and brothers were either murdered or absent on duty, and others flying for terror to the woods with their helpless children. And we felt, and still feel, this might have been our lot, had it not been for the prompt and instant measures which your Excellency adopted, with the advice of your Privy Council. And now, learning that your Excellency's conduct has been called in question, we do not hesitate to come forAard and express our heartfelt sympathy with you, and to pray that the same Almighty power which gave you wisdom to protect the Island may still throw His protection around you, and enable you to overcome the calumnies of those wholesale maligners, who, in such unmeasured terms, have arraigned your actions at the bar of public opinion.

We beg leave respectfully to offer our sympathies to Mrs. Eyre and your family, and to express our appreciation of the noble and spirited letter of your sister, which we have read in the English papers.

May the blessings of God be showered abundantly on Mrs. Eyre, yourself, and family, is the earnest and sincere prayers of

Yours most respectfully.
(Signed) S. A. HOLLINSWORTH,
and by 133 other ladies.)

Jamaica.

Mrs. Hollingsworth, and Ladies of Manchester,

It affords me sincere gratification to receive your most kind address of support and sympathy, under the misrepresentation and calumny by which I have been assailed by a section of the public in England, for unflinchingly discharging my duty in endeavouring to protect those entrusted to my care from the ruthless violence of infuriated savages.

However much as a public man I may feel the injustice which has been done me, I find abundant consolation in the knowledge that the steps which are censured were, under God's blessing, the means of averting from other districts of the Colony the frightful scenes which were enacted at Morant Bay. I feel too, that your own and the many other warm-hearted and generous addresses which have been sent to me may well cheer and encourage me under my present trying position.

Accept, ladies, my own and Mrs. Eyre's grateful thanks for your good feelings towards us, and our best wishes that God may bless you, and those dear to you, and ever preserve to you peaceful and happy homes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. Eyre.

Rev. T. P. Russell to Governor Eyre.

The Cloisters, St. Ann's Bay, 9th January, 1866.

To his Excellency Governor Eyre.

My dear Sir,

It is not from any fear I entertain of your strength failing you in the hour of trial, of your allowing the sense of loneness to creep over you, as you consider the nature and number of those unworthy attacks which have been made upon you and your policy of governing this country, in England; of your being driven from your position of conscious integrity, uprightness, and consistency in the administration of the affairs of this Colony, to one of doubt of everything you have done, or of your needing anything like what I can say to enable you to bear all with that true nobleness which has already endeared you to so many hearts, that I address you with a few lines.

My sentiments of attachment to your Excellency, my approval of your public conduct, and especially in the late unhappy outbreak, my feeling of indignation at the wrong already inflicted and more severely threatened on one who has done his duty, and the very best thing that could have been done under the circumstances, urges me thus to address you, and inform you that you are not alone. You have my feeble but earnest sympathy, (and I may say that of thousands more,) and you will continue to have a place in my earnest prayers in private at the family altar, and at the public assemblies of God's people.

We have confidence in committing your Excellency and family to God's care and guiding love. We know he will bring forth your Excellency's righteousness as the light, and your judgment as the noon-day. All will be eventually cleared, even though it may be necessary to delay it for a season. Be assured therefore, my dear sir, that while everything is at present and will remain for a time in so unpleasant and painful a position with regard to yourself and family, there will arise from many a heart and many a home continual intercessions on your own and their behalf, and that the Commission instituted by Her most Gracious Majesty's Government may be guided to definite and right conclusions.

Your Excellency will not, I venture to hope, be in the least measure influenced by the fickleness of public opinion as expressed in the newspapers.

Allow me to remark that at present I have found but one party in the country at all dissentient as regards the approval of your conduct.

They may or may not increase their number according as they may succeed in swaying the judgments of those whom they influence. Public opinion, I regret to say, in this country is exceedingly unsteady.

But your Excellency's former independency will serve you now; and amid so much that is changeable, I heartily hope your Excellency may derive those consolations from the Word of God which it is calculated to impart.

God Almighty bless, sustain, and comfort you with the light of His countenance and the sense of His approval, and grant yourself and family every desirable satisfaction after the fullest investigation.

I have hastily seized a few moments to pen these few and unworthy lines at this, as I have felt, the period of your peculiar and painful trial. Look not at their intrinsic merits, but at the one feeling which has dictated them, and permit me to remain

Your Excellency's
attached and humble servant.
(Signed) Thos. P. Russell,
Wesleyan Methodist Minister.

Governor Eyre to the Rev. T. Russell.

Reverend Sir, Flamstead, 6th February 1866.

I have received and thank you for your letter of the 9th ultimo, expressing your sympathy with me under the trying circumstances of my present position.

Believing that I did my duty faithfully in a great emergency, I am troubled with no anxiety as to the future, but I value highly the good opinion and the prayers of the many who have so generously come forward to support and encourage me.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) E. Eyre.

To Edward John Eyre, Esq.,
Governor, &c. &c.

SIR, Saint Vincent, 9th January 1866.

THE violence with which your conduct during the late troubles in Jamaica has been attacked by a portion of the English press and by the Anti-Slavery Society, and the un-English spirit in which you have been condemned by both on insufficient evidence, and unheard, must enlist for you the sympathy of all lovers of fair play, of all persons who are acquainted with your Excellency, and especially of those who have had experience of negro outbreaks.

Your rule over this Colony from 1854 to 1859 is kindly remembered by us, and we feel assured that you could not have assented to the executions for which you are blamed had they not been absolutely necessary.

The revolt of a portion of the negro population which occurred here in 1862 has taught us that severity at the earliest possible moment must be the rule in insurrections in Colonies in which the white and coloured people are vastly outnumbered by the negroes; and we can well understand that success having converted the partially civilized negro into an African savage, it may be necessary to push severity towards him to a degree which could not be required in any European state,—in fact, to the extent of producing absolute terror.

We look on the suppression of the revolt in Jamaica as having prevented revolt in the smaller colonies, and are aware that the massacre at Morant Bay was openly spoken of by the negroes here as worthy of imitation, and that the news brought by the next mail of the retribution which followed it was not lost on the disaffected amongst us. We, therefore, think that you are entitled to our gratitude for the energy and firmness with which you acted, and to the gratitude of every Colony in the West Indies, more especially of those which, being totally without the protection of British soldiers, must find such an example of value in the war of races on which they seem to be entering.

Trusting that the investigation ordered by the British Government may prove to it, as we believe it will, that you have done your duty, and have not exceeded it,

We remain,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) JN. J. HUGHES, M.C.
ROBERT AITKEN, M.C.
H. W. LABORDE, M.C.
(and by 33 others.)

To the Honorable J. J. HUGHES, the Honorable ROBERT AITKEN, the Rev. H. LABORDE, and other inhabitants of St. Vincent.

REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE received with very great pleasure your address, coming as it does from the inhabitants of a Colony of which I administered the government for several years, and in the welfare and prosperity of which I must ever take a lively interest.

It is most gratifying to me to find that I am still remembered amongst you with kindly feelings, and that all the obloquy and misrepresentation which have been so unsparingly, and I must add so unjustly, heaped upon me by a section of the English press, have not shaken your confidence in my character which a long personal acquaintance enabled you to form during the time I had the honour of being your lieutenant governor.

You are quite right in supposing that the pressure of a most imminent and great peril, threatening the entire Colony of Jamaica, with very limited means of meeting it, made it a stern duty, from which I did not shrink, so to crush out and punish an actual and extensive rebellion as, by intimidating the disaffected of other districts (known to be in a state of preparedness to rebel) might prevent them from attempting to repeat in such districts the savage occurrences which desolated St. Thomas-in-the-East, and for a time left one of the richest and most productive parishes of the Colony (containing upwards of 215 square miles) without proprietor, manager, or overseer to reap the abundant crop then ready for the harvest.

I do not doubt but that any failure or delay in putting down or checking the spread of insurrection in Jamaica would at once have resulted in rebellion in other British West India Colonies, especially the smaller and comparatively unprotected ones. Nor do I doubt that the only safe way of dealing with rebellion in these colonies where the white and coloured population is so greatly outnumbered by the black (and my opinion is founded upon many years' experience of the negro character) is to confront it by a punishment that shall be prompt, certain, and severe. I believe that such a stern exercise of retributive justice in the long run becomes eventual mercy.

Whatever may be the result of the Commission now engaged in inquiring into the circumstances connected with the late rebellion, and the steps taken to subdue it, I shall ever retain the proud satisfaction of believing that I did my duty faithfully in a great and trying emergency, and the conviction (almost universally shared in by the colonists themselves) that in doing it I saved Jamaica from the horrors of a general and protracted rebellion.

For your good wishes towards me personally I thank you most sincerely, and I earnestly pray that your lovely and fertile island may ever mercifully be preserved from becoming the theatre of such appalling scenes as were recently enacted in the eastern districts of this Colony.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Flamstead, Jamaica,
5th February 1866.

Jamaica.

Spanish Town, 22nd January 1866.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned members of one family, jointly request your Excellency to receive our heartfelt thanks for the prompt measures your Excellency adopted in the suppression of the late rebellion which took place in Saint Thomas-in-the-East on the 11th October 1865.

We believe that but for a mighty interposition of Providence, coupled with the exertions used on your part, as well as the assistance rendered by the military, the majority of our lives would have been lost.

We have been led to this belief from our personal knowledge of a majority of the lower classes of persons who inhabit this Colony.

We know that the class named are a bloodthirsty, barbarous, and discontented race.

We are strongly of opinion that if your Excellency had not put such a timely stoppage, that the rebellion would have spread all over the Island, and but God himself only knows when and where it would have been ended.

We deeply sympathize with your Excellency to find that persons across the waters (perfectly unacquainted with the matter, as well as of the manner and habits of the people) should have attempted to condemn your Excellency's action without awaiting the result of any inquiry that was about to be instituted.

We believe that a great majority of the respectable and intelligent portion of the community will go with us in our statements herein contained, and that we who are on the spot ought to know more about the matter than those abroad.

We believe that your Excellency will join us in welcomiug the Royal Commissioners whom Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint.

We rest perfectly assured that they will find that your actions have been of such a nature as to warrant Her gracious Majesty to promote you to a more distinguished and civilized place, where you will be able to give your opponents cause to envy you.

In conclusion we wish you and family every prosperity that this world affords, and we have the extreme honor to be,

Your Excellency's most dutiful and devoted servants,

(Signed) Ebenezer Constantine Henriques.
Jane Ellick Henriques.
Horatio N. Henriques.
E. E. Henriques.
M. J. Henriques.
Ann Thompson Saa.
E. E. Saa.
Caroline Hemmings.
W. W. Henriques.

To E. A. Henriques, J. E. Henriques, E. E. Henriques, M. J. Henriques, A. T. Saa, E. E. Saa, C. Hemmings, and W. W. Henriques.

I thank you for your address. It is gratifying to me to know that, as members of a family in the humbler walks of life, you recognize that my endeavours to preserve the peace of the country, and to render life and property secure, were intended to promote alike the welfare and safety of all classes of the community.

For your good wishes I return you my very sincere thanks.

(Signed) E. Eyre.

Flamstead, 6th January 1866.

No. 7.

No. 7.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 24.) King's House, 8th February, 1866.

Sir, (Received, March 2, 1866.)

I have the honor to transmit a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from various Baptist congregations of this Island, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty and their concern and grief at the late disturbances.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 7.

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Minister, Deacons, and Members of the Baptist Church at Spanish Town, together with other inhabitants of the parish and precinct of Saint Catharine, Jamaica.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

We, Your Majesty's most loyal subjects, the pastor and deacons of the churches and congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the Baptist denomination in the island of Jamaica, usually meeting for Divine worship in their chapels, situate in Spanish Town, in the parish of Saint Catharine, in Saint John, in Saint Dorothy, and Saint Thomas-in-the-Vale, humbly presume to present to Your Majesty, with sentiments of profound submission and respect, an expression of our feelings and views in relation to the present eventful crisis of public affairs in this Colony, as evidenced by the recent outbreak and violence on the part of some of our fellow-subjects of the labouring class at the town of Morant Bay, in the parish of Saint Thomas-in-the-East.

In our character as minister and members of Christian churches who have been blessed with the advantages of Christian instruction, we beg to assure Your Majesty that, whilst we are impressed with the conviction that the first tribute of our gratitude ought to be rendered to Almighty God, the author and giver of all our mercies, for the happy circumstances of civil and religious freedom under which we are placed, we at the same time feel ourselves bound, not only by the ordinary and sacred ties which regulate the duties of subjects to their rulers, but also by the peculiar and never to be forgotten bond of gratitude to Your Most Gracious Majesty for the great boon of freedom conferred upon many of us at the commencement of Your Majesty's auspicious and beneficent reign, and for the many occasions subsequently in which Your Majesty has afforded us protection, and otherwise manifested towards us consideration and regard. Thus persuaded that we can enjoy no greater temporal blessings than to be governed by a monarch who rules in the fear of God, and by such laws as secure equal rights and privileges to Her subjects of every rank, colour, and religous creed, we, in obedience to the admonition of one of the greatest of Sovereigns, have no desire but to "fear the Lord and the King, and not meddle with them that are given to change."

With the sentiments of lively satisfaction and joy thus expressed, and which we cannot but feel for Your Majesty's kind consideration towards us, we are deeply grieved that attempts are being made in this country and in England to represent us as being a discontented and factious people, and as having aided in or approved of the late disastrous riot in the eastern part of the Island, which has resulted in such fearful outrages upon Your Majesty's constituted authorities and other gentlemen of the district.

While we assure Your Majesty that this imputation is altogether cruel and unjust, such conduct being directly at variance with our secular interests, as well as derogatory to our character as professing Christians, added to the fact that we have never personally known the insurgents, nor been in any way connected with them, we beg Your Majesty to give us credit for sincerity when we declare that the deeds of these misguided men are in every sense as painful and revolting to us as they can possibly be to any class of Your Majesty's subjects, causing us heartfelt shame and sorrow.

At the same time that we, as Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, feel deeply grieved at the imputation thus sought to be fixed on our character, and thus totally deny all complicity in or sympathy with the perpetrators of this outrage, we deem it right to give this assurance lest we should suffer the loss of Your Majesty's continued confidence and favour. Nor do we feel it less our duty to Your most Gracious Majesty most solemnly to renew our assurances that we are and ever have been Your Majesty's peaceful and loyal subjects, "studying to be quiet, and to do our own business, and labouring with our own hands," valuing the blessings of civil and religious liberty too highly to hazard them by insubordination to the laws under which we live, and the authorities Your Majesty has placed over us.

In conclusion, permit us to implore Your Majesty to give no credit to any insinuation against our loyalty, from whatever quarter it may emanate, but to honour us with the fullest belief when we reiterate our solemn conviction that Your Majesty has no more loving and devoted subjects than the Baptist missionaries and the thousands of their people (we may add, the entire coloured and black population in Jamaica) in any part of Your dominions, while we can, with equal sincerity, affirm that it would be one of the greatest grievances we could suffer even to be suspected of disaffection or ingratitude towards Your Majesty's person, or loyalty to Your throne.

May God preserve and bless Your Majesty and all the Royal Family, and prolong Your government over us; and at last, full of days and full of honour, may you, in the enjoyment of the richest consolations of religion, receive from the hands of "Him by whom kings reign, and princes decree justice," a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

(Signed) JAMES M. PHILLIPPO,
Pastor Baptist Church, &c., Spanish Town;
and by about 2,000 others.)

JAMAICA.

No. 8.

No. 8. COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 29.) King's House, February 19, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 16, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial from the congregations of the Baptist Churches at Gurney's Mount and Mount Peto in the parish of Hanover, under the pastoral care of the Rev. C. E. Randall, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern districts of this Island.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a number of the inhabitants of the parish of Hanover, in the island of Jamaica, composing two congregations of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist denomination at Gurney's Mount and Mount Peto, in the said parish and island, under the pastoral care of the Reverend Caleb Edward Randall, and numbering more than 800 persons, beg to approach our Sovereign with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty that we deeply mourn over the late outbreak at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East, with all its melancholy and direful consequences; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken, and the large amount of property destroyed, by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements that have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island with the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in this statement so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but deeply grateful to Your Majesty's government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and murderous intentions against the lives of our fellow subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching investigation into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of His Excellency for making these alarming assertions. We humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of these inquiries will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally around Your Majesty's government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, to defend it against foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is, that He may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give you an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We remain, on behalf of the above-mentioned congregation,

Your Majesty's most faithful
and loving subjects.
(Signed by CALEB EDWARD RANDALL, Pastor;
and by 14 others.)

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, K.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 33.) King's House, February 24, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 16, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of an address presented to me by the ministers and delegates of the North Cornwall Association of Baptist Churches on my arrival to assume the Government of Jamaica.

The memorialists also express their loyalty to Her Majesty, as well as their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 9. Encl. in No. 9.

To His Excellency Sir HENRY K. STORKS, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Island of Jamaica and its dependencies.

THE humble memorial of the ministers and delegates of the North Cornwall Association of Baptist churches, representing twelve churches: nearly 5,000 members are communicants, and upwards of 20,000 persons attending their places of worship.

Your memorialists, on this their first meeting since your Excellency's arrival, would take the opportunity of expressing their satisfaction in the appointment which Her most gracious Majesty has been pleased to make, in giving your Excellency the direction of the affairs of this important Colony at the present trying and eventful period, and would earnestly assure your Excellency of their sympathy, and earnest prayers that your Excellency may be guided aright in the delicate and arduous duties devolving upon your Excellency.

Your memorialists would also assure your Excellency, and through you Her most gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, that Her Majesty has no more loyal and devoted subjects under Her dominion and authority than themselves, and those whom your memorialists represent, and indeed the whole black and coloured population of Jamaica.

Your memorialists are bound by the strongest feelings of gratitude and attachment to their beloved Sovereign Queen Victoria and the British Government, because in addition to other privileges they received from them the precious boon of freedom; to the present period they have enjoyed protection of person and property, with the inestimable blessings of religious liberty.

Under these circumstances your Excellency may imagine better than your memorialists can express the indignation and sorrow they have experienced from the fact that some persons in this country and also in England have attempted to fasten on them the odious charges of disloyalty to their Sovereign, and of sympathy with the murderous outbreak of last October in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Your memorialists would implore your Excellency not for a moment to believe charges so detrimental to their character, so contrary to the instruction they have received from their religious teachers, and so at variance with their secular interests.

Your memorialists are and ever have been peaceful and loyal in their conduct and character, and have no sympathy with, but on the contrary heartily condemn, the wicked lawlessness and outrage already referred to.

Your memorialists desire only in peace and safety to pursue their industrial occupations and religious duties, and should the preservation of order and authority require the aid of your memorialists and those whom they represent, your Excellency will find none more ready to unite with their fellow colonists in the repression of wrong doing than those who now address you and those whom they have the honour and privilege to represent.

We are,
Your Excellency's obedient Servants,
JOHN EDWARD HENDERSON, Chairman.
WALTER DENDY, Secretary.

Montego Bay,
30th January, 1866.

No. 10. No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 34.) King's House, February 20, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 16, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from one of the Baptist congregations of the parish of Trelawney, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Lea, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I also transmit a copy of a letter from the Rev. Thomas Lea, forwarding the above memorial, and my reply thereto.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

JAMAICA.

Encl. in No. 10.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Reverend THOMAS LEA to Governor STORKS.

SIR, Falmouth, February 6, 1866.

I HAVE to request your Excellency to do me the honour of transmitting to the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Secretary of State for Her Majesty's Colonies, the enclosed memorial expressive of the sentiments of the people under my pastoral charge.

Your Excellency will permit me to say that during a ministry of eight years in this Island, I have in no single instance discovered evidence of a disloyal spirit amongst my people; but, on the contrary, my intercourse with them has ever convinced me that they cherish a most grateful and dutiful attachment towards the person and throne of Her most gracious Majesty the Queen.

I take the liberty of assuring your Excellency that the charges of disloyalty and sedition which have been, in various ways, attributed to the members of my church and congregations, in common with all of the Baptist persuasion, are not only entirely untrue, but have occasioned them deep and sincere grief.

Your Excellency will allow me to assure your Excellency that it is the most earnest and devout prayer of my people to Almighty God, that your Excellency's administration of government in this Island may issue in lasting peace, goodwill, and prosperity amongst all classes in the community.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir Henry Storks, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. Governor of Jamaica.

(Signed) THOS. LEA, Baptist Missionary.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY, Falmouth, Jamaica, February 6, 1866.

WE, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, assembling at Falmouth, in the parish of Trelawney, Jamaica, numbering upwards of 2,000 persons, and under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thos. Lea, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person, and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's Government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken and the large amount of property destroyed by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements, which have been put forth in various ways by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island, for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure Your Majesty that there is no truth in the statement so far as we ourselves are concerned and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow-parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but grateful to Your Majesty's Government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and murderous intentions against the lives of our fellow-subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching inquiry into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making his alarming assertions.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, in defending it against foes within and enemies without. Our earnest prayer to God is, that He will preserve Your Majesty's valuable life, and render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give you an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed on behalf of the church and congregation assembling in the Baptist chapel, Falmouth.

We are Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects,

THOS. LEA, pastor. WILLIAM SHAW, leader.
JOHN M'LAUGHLIN, deacon. PETER JONES, leader.
JAMES WALLACE, deacon. ROBERT SIMPSON, leader.
ROBERT STEELE. RICHARD ANDERSON.

Governor STORKS to the Rev. THOMAS LEA.

SIR, King's House, Jamaica, February 9, 1866.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 6th instant, transmitting an address to the Queen, which I shall forward through the Secretary of State, to be laid at the foot of the Throne.

I have read with satisfaction the expressions of loyalty and affection to Her Majesty the Queen which are contained in the memorial, and I accept with pleasure the assurance conveyed in your letter of the desire of your congregation that my administration of the government may lead to lasting peace, goodwill, and prosperity amongst all classes in the community.

It will be my earnest endeavour to effect these great objects, and I confidently reckon on your assistance and co-operation in allaying excitement and bitter feeling, and in restoring that confidence and Christian forbearance without which no state can prosper and no community can succeed.

I have. &c.

The Reverend Thomas Lea, Falmouth.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

No. 11.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 39.) King's House, February 22, 1866.
(Received, March 16, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a memorial addressed to Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen from a Baptist congregation of the parish of Westmoreland, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 11.

Enclosure in No. 11.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, a number of the inhabitants of the parish of Westmoreland, in the Island of Jamaica, forming a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist denomination at Savanna-la-Mar, in the said parish and island, and numbering nearly 1,000 persons, beg to approach our Sovereign with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure your Majesty that we deeply mourn over the late outbreak at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East, with all its melancholy and direful consequences; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken and the large amount of property destroyed by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements that have been put forth, in various ways, by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island, for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in this statement so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow-parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but deeply grateful to Her Majesty's Government; and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and murderous intentions against the lives of our fellow-subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching investigation into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions. We humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of these inquiries will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally around Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, to defend it against foes within or enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He may long spare Your Majesty's valuable life, render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give you an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We remain Your Majesty's most faithful
and loving Subjects,
(Signed) CALEB E. RANDALL, and
twenty-one others.

No. 12.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 46.) King's House, March 6, 1866.
(Received, March 31, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen from the pastor and congregation in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society at Fuller's Field, in the parish of Westmoreland, expressing

Jamaica.

their loyalty to Her Majesty, as well as their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. in No. 12.

Enclosure in No. 12.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

May it please Your Majesty,

We, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist church and congregation in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society at Fuller's Field, in the parish of Westmoreland, Jamaica, a congregation numbering more than 400 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals in one of the eastern parishes of this Island against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious and cruel murders said to have been committed, deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most Gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which we have reason to believe Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the evil spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred. And we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the districts in which we live, and if it had, that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are not only too true and loyal to connive at it, but would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We therefore humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects; while we are sure that Your Majesty will not only command that inquiry shall be made into the causes of this sad and wicked outbreak, but also a just and impartial investigation into the penalties with which it has been visited, penalties which it is commonly reported have involved the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the Legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a crown colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesiy, rejoicing as we do exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that under present circumstances this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings reign and princes decree justice may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a loyal and devoted people, and may continue to the British Empire over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway that peace and prosperity with which it has of late years been so highly favoured,

We remain,
Your Majesty's most faithful and loving Subjects,
(Signed) Windsor Burke, Pastor,
and by 80 others.

No. 13.

No. 13.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 50.) King's House, March 9, 1866.
(Received, March 31, 1866.)

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from the pastor and congregation of the Baptist church at Shrewsbury, in the parish of St. Elizabeth, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, as well as their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 13. JAMAICA.

To Her most Gracious Majesty Queen VICTORIA. Encl. in No. 13.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY, St. Elizabeth, Black River, January 22, 1866.

WE, the undersigned, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist church at Shrewsbury, in this parish of St. Elizabeth, and others of the said parish, loyal and loving subjects of Your Majesty, beg to approach Your Majesty's person and throne, to tell Your Majesty that it is a fact beyond dispute that the name of Your Majesty has long been a household word amongst us through the length and breadth of this Island, and is also, through God's blessing, the centre of all our hopes and our joys.

We humbly take leave to assure Your Majesty that the recent disturbances in the eastern part of this Island have occasioned to us the deepest sorrow, concern, and regret, and our regret is the more intense when we find that an attempt is made to create an impression in England, and probably in the mind of Your Majesty, that a general rebellion of the black people of this Island was a contemplated thing.

We glory in the assurance that we are regarded in England as British subjects, and Your Majesty as our Queen. Our love for the Royal family of England has been testified whenever our shores were visited by one member of the family.

Nothwithstanding the fearful season of anxiety and unhappiness we have just passed, yet we rejoice to know that Your Majesty (ever mindful of the rights and the happiness of your people in every part of the British dominions) has seen fit to institute an inquiry into the cause of the recent disturbances in this Island, and which we hope and trust and expect will settle satisfactorily the question of the loyalty of the people of this Island.

We respectfully would assure Your Majesty of our confidence in the Commission of Inquiry which Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint, and at same time to say that the results of the inquiry will be such as to prove conclusively that there was no foundation for statement (to the effect) that we were sitting on a volcano.

We regret that in an important colony, as this our Island is, after having enjoyed for a long period the privilege of self-government, a necessity should arise for a change of the constitution, and during the existence of martial law; but our faith and confidence in British rule is to us a sufficient assurance that a better future is in store for our Island under the change contemplated.

We pray most earnestly that He by whom kings rule and princes decree justice may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway that peace and prosperity with which it has been of late years so favoured.

We remain, Your Majesty's most faithful
and loving Subjects,
(Signed) S. W. HOLT, Pastor,
and by 85 others.

No. 14. No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 54.) King's House, March 9, 1866.
(Received, March 31, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of an address which has been presented to me by the Reverend G. R. Henderson on behalf of the Baptist congregations of Bethtephil and Hastings, in the parishes of Trelawney and St. James, together with a copy of my reply thereto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 14. Encl. in No. 14.

To His Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Island of Jamaica and its Dependencies, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, Dissenters of the Baptist persausion meeting in the chapels at Bethtephil and Hastings, in the parishes of Trelawney and St. James, and numbering about 1,100 persons, beg that your Excellency will permit us humbly to offer you our sincere congratulations upon your safe arrival in this Island.

2. We would express our gratitude to our beloved sovereign Queen Victoria for having been pleased to appoint your Excellency to the supreme command of our country at this important crisis, and we earnestly pray that you may be guided in your deliberations by the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

3. We would assure your Excellency, as the representative of our beloved Sovereign of our loyal and devoted attachment to Her person and to Her Government, and would express our deep sorrow at the

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recent riots in St. Thomas-in-the-East, and our indignation at the conduct of those who set the laws at defiance; and we confidently assert that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, such a deplorable event could not happen in this district, for our wish, and we believe the wish of all residing in these parts, is to live in quiet and peaceable subjection to lawfully constituted authorities.

4. That we were pained at the assertion of wide-spread disaffection and disloyalty, and feel deeply hurt at the statement of Colonel Whitfield—"He observed men with sullen and dissatisfied looks "riding about the country in all directions. That about half the negroes looked happy and contented, "the remainder as if they would take much pleasure in cutting our throats,"—especially as many of us reside in one of those districts through which he passed.

5. That we, therefore, humbly pray your Excellency to seek for proof of such assertions, believing them to be incorrect, and feeling them to be an undeserved reproach upon ourselves in common with the whole of the black population of the Island.

6. And we shall ever continue to pray, as is our custom both in public and private, that your Excellency with all those in authority over us may be aided and directed in every duty by our Almighty Father, that peace and order may be preserved in our land, and that you may long enjoy every blessing.

I have the honour to remain,
Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,
G. R. HENDERSON, Pastor.

Signed on behalf of the Baptist congregations meeting at Bethtephil and Hastings.

Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., &c., to Rev. G. R. HENDERSON.

(No. 45.)

SIR, King's House, March 2, 1866.

I HAVE had the honour to receive the address which you were so good as to send me, signed by yourself on behalf of the Baptist congregations meeting at Bethtephil and Hastings.

2. I request that you will convey to those congregations, and accept yourself, my best thanks for the expressions of welcome and good feeling towards myself which that address contains.

3. I learn with satisfaction that your congregations regard the late disturbances in St. Thomas-in-the-East with deep sorrow and the conduct of the promoters of those riots with indignation.

4. I feel assured that the congregations which you represent will set an example of order and obedience to the laws, and assist the Government in securing the public tranquillity and in repressing outrage.

5. I feel extremely desirous that you, in common with all other Christian ministers, should afford me your support and assistance in my endeavour to disabuse the peasantry of the absurd and unfounded rumours which have been circulated, and which are propagated by the mischievous and ill-disposed with a view to disturb the public mind and create confusion.

6. I am anxious that the labouring classes should understand that the only way to obtain the means of living and to secure independence is by the pursuit of honest and continuous industry, and that the Government is resolved, whilst protecting the interests of the labourer, to uphold the law and strictly to maintain the rights of property.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Rev. G. R. Henderson, Falmouth.

No. 15.

No. 15.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 58.) King's House, March 10, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 31, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from the Maroons of Charles Town, in the Parish of St. George's, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty.

I have &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

To Her most Gracious Majesty Queen VICTORIA.

Charles Town, St. George's, Jamaica, February 17, 1866.

WE, the undersigned loyal Maroons of Charles Town, beg that Your Majesty will deign to receive at our hands a most humble address, expressive of the profound loyalty, gratitude, devotedness and obedience we owe to Your august person, crown, and dignity. Concerning the late wicked and atrocious

rebellion which afflicted Your Majesty's poor unfortunate colony, Jamaica, in October last, which but for the great courage, fortitude, prompt and skilful measures adopted by our noble Governor Eyre, in conjunction with his ministerial advisers, the Honourables Henry Westmoreland, Wm. Hosack, and Doctor Robert Hamilton; the Naval and Military Forces under their distinguished commanders, Admiral Hope and General O'Connor; Royal Volunteers and others the civil authorities, who all alike in their various spheres of action zealously displayed their duty to their Queen and country; we say, and we repeat it from the bottom of our hearts, that but for the foregoing prompt, skilful, and energetic steps taken on that melancholy occasion, a *wide-spread* insurrection would have inevitably followed.

It is not without feelings of great diffidence and reluctance that we here advert to the humble part we took towards suppressing that unhappy outbreak; but the little we did do we did it with a full and stedfast determination not to lay down our arms until the Queen's enemies were entirely vanquished; and should, unfortunately, which may God in His Mercy avert, another outbreak occur, we trust we shall not be wanting in again coming forward to co-operate with and assist Your Majesty's most gallant, zealous, and ever valiant troops to put the same under our feet.

We would wish to say many things to Your Majesty relative to this, once the finest colony belonging to the British dominions, "the brightest gem of the Far West," but now, alas! cast down with misfortunes, if it were not that we feel we shall be trespassing too much upon Your gracious attention; we however, would humbly crave permission to make a few more observations ere we draw to a conclusion.

The remembrance of Your Majesty's son, His Royal Highness the Prince Alfred's visit to Jamaica, during the Governorship of Sir Charles Henry Darling, when his Excellency took occasion to give him a little insight of this naturally beautiful island, especially by taking His Royal Highness to those favoured spots where once his great ancestor of blessed memory, William the Fourth, as Duke of Clarence, visited; we looked upon that event as an earnest of Your Majesty's solicitude and regard for the welfare of Jamaica.

We now view the arrival of Your Majesty's Royal Commissioners, his Excellency Sir Henry Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.; Russel Gurney, Q.C. and M.P., and John Blosset Maule, Esquires, who are engaged in carrying out the high and important mission with which they have been charged to inquire into the origin of the rebellion, &c., &c., with the reassurance that Your Majesty is as solicitous as ever for the prosperity of our distracted and distressed country. We pray that the happiest results may attend their labours.

Having already, in an humble address of welcome we ventured to tender his Excellency Sir Henry Storks and the distinguished and learned gentlemen associated with him in the Royal Commission, expatiated upon, among other things, the grand resources of this Island, which are now comparatively lying latent and dormant for want of an increase of British capital, industry, machinery, and willing labourers suitable to the soil, to develope them, we would refrain from extending our address to any inconsiderate length, trusting as we do that his Excellency will in due time graciously bring to Your Majesty's notice and the British public our sentiments and opinions upon the present state of Jamaica in a more forcible and impressive manner than we can do.

We deeply sympathise with the noble, good, and christian Governor Eyre, towards whom we have lately heard with dismay and concern that a section of the British press and people have been dealing rather unfairly; but we humble Maroons would desire to express ourselves with great deference and respect, and allowance (*considering the ocean lies between us*), for their feelings and wrong conclusions, being persuaded that when they shall be placed in possession of the true facts of the case they will considerably modify their opinions and "render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's."

We also beg to bring to Your Majesty's notice that we are filled with profound admiration and respect towards your good and great commanders, namely, Major General O'Connor, C.B., and Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, K.C.B. &c. and all the officers serving under them, and under whose particular notice we more particularly came, for the very handsome and kindly manner in which those distinguished commanders (to whom we sent addresses) have signified the interest they take for the welfare of the Maroons (whose origin commenced more than 200 years ago).

In conclusion, we pray that the King of kings and Lord of lords will vouchsafe a long life and a prosperous and happy reign to Your Majesty: and further that the blessings of the Almighty, both spiritual and temporal, may be abundantly poured down upon Your Majesty, the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family.

We shall always, through "good report," and "evil report" remain
Your Majesty's most dutiful, most loyal, and faithful Maroon soldiers.
(Signed by WILLIAM MCFARLANE, Major.
JAMES OAKLEY, Captain.
JOHN SHECKELFORD, Captain.
WILLIAM CARGILL, Captain.
JAMES B. DOUGLAS, Ensign.
JOHN J. CRAWFORD, Ensign.
WILLIAM RASHFORD, Sergeant.
JNO. MC C. LEARY, Sergeant.
GEORGE CARGILL, Sergeant.
and by 98 others.)

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No. 16.

No. 16. Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 60.) King's House, March 10, 1866.

SIR, (Received, March 31, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith two memorials addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from certain inhabitants of the city and parish of Kingston, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. in No. 16.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, Your Majesty's loyal subjects, inhabitants of the city of Kingston, sincerely and affectionately attached as we are to Your Majesty's august throne, beg most humbly and respectfully to represent ourselves to Your Majesty as persons who are chiefly of the black population, and who cannot but feel profound regret at the recent disturbances which were the deplorable cause of the shedding of the blood of a few of our white and coloured fellow colonists.

We beg to be permitted to assure Your Majesty that whatever may have been the nature of the local wrongs and grievances on account of which the people of St. Thomas-in-the-East suffered, and which, unfortunately, urged a portion of them unjustifiably to manifest a temporary contempt for law and order, we could not have been so unmindful of our religious obligations to "the powers that be" as to accord them any sympathy whatever.

We earnestly beseech Your Majesty to do us the justice to believe that fidelity to Your Majesty's throne is not more cherished by any of Your Majesty's subjects, in whatever clime they may breathe, than by those who now have the honour and privilege of addressing their gracious Sovereign. Therefore it is that language has been found by us inadequate to convey our justly grounded indignation at the circumstance of the whole body of us having been spoken of as having entertained such feelings as would prompt us "to make this country a second Hayti."

We are not so ignorant of the civil and religious blessings which liberally accrue to Your Majesty's subjects, in whatever part of the earth the British flag indicates national possession, as to act in such a manner as to forfeit your confidence in our established loyal character. We are fully conscious that no local disadvantages, the result of purely colonial feelings and sentiments, to which we are sometimes compelled to submit, are by any means encouraged by the British Government and people: and consequently, are led to believe that Your Majesty is as much interested in our temporal and spiritual welfare as in that of any other of Your Majesty's subjects.

We cling with tenacity to the hope that Your Majesty's Government will scrutinize the educational, moral, religious, social, and political condition of the people, with the view of discovering whatever defects there may exist in the measures brought to bear upon their improvement, and applying such remedies as in their wisdom they may deem desirable to attain their object.

We pray that Heaven's choicest gifts may be richly poured out, not only on Your Majesty's head but also on that of each member of the Royal Family. We implore "Our Father who art in Heaven," who rules over nations as well as individuals, to grant that your beneficent reign may be a protracted one, and that, having been graciously sustaining Your Majesty under your and the empire's great bereavement, He may continue His loving kindness towards you, not only in this respect, but also by assisting Your Majesty to be always a blessing to all your subjects wherever they dwell, and a regal light and praiseworthy example to all earthly rulers and others placed in exalted stations.

In conclusion, we humbly beg to subscribe ourselves Your Majesty's most loyal and devoted Subjects.

Signed by

ROBERT GORDON, Head Master of Woolmer's Grammar School, Kingston, and late member of the clergy of Upper Canada.

EDWARD VICKARS, Justice of the Peace for Kingston, St. Catherine, St. David, Port Royal, St. Dorothy, and St. John; Alderman for Kingston, and late Member of Assembly for St. Catherine.

THOS. B. WILTSHIRE, Justice of the Peace for Kingston, and Captain of No. 8 Company Kingston Special Volunteers.

THOS. BROWN, Vestryman for the Parish of St. Andrew, and 1st Lieut. of No. 8 Company Kingston Special Volunteers.

A. R. JEFFRIES.

ALEXANDER ELLIS, Baptist minister, and late student of Divinity, Calabar Institution.

Kingston, Jamaica, February 13th 1866.

And by more than 2,000 others.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, Your Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, principally the female portion of Your Majesty's black population, resident in the city of Kingston, eagerly though with respect and humility, embrace the present fit opportunity, with the view of expressing our consciousness of the many blessings of which we are in the grateful enjoyment as the direct result of our being British subjects.

We are emboldened to take this step from the over to be regretted circumstance that some of our sex,

influenced by misguided men, criminally co-operated with a portion of the people of St. Thomas-in-the East in recently redressing what they deemed their wrongs and grievances.

We humbly beseech Your Majesty to receive the sincere assurance that loyalty to the blessed throne of England's good Queen is religiously cherished by us. We feel it to be our bounden duty to set it vividly before the minds of our children and others connected with us, so that they too may regard it in such a light as would preclude their being found on the side of those who would either practically evince disrespect for law and order, or in any way unconstitutionally conduct themselves.

We shall ever petition the Throne of Grace, that the Common Father of all, "whose we are and whom we serve," may long preserve Your Majesty to reign ever us. We shall ever invoke His blessing on Your Majesty and on the different members of the Royal Family, and pray that our Gracious Queen, whose example as wife and mother our sex would find it salutary to themselves and their domestic circles faithfully to imitate, and with whom, in the great loss of her life, some of us can, in a special manner, affectionately sympathize, may continue to be blessed with health and strength fully to discharge all the relative duties which her exalted rank devolves upon her.

That Your Majesty may be the recipient of such an amount of heavenly grace as may enable you "to fight the good fight of faith," and eventually be granted by "the Judge of quick and dead," "the Author and Finisher of our salvation," that "incorruptible Crown" which will never cause its possessor to lay his head uneasily, is the ardent prayer of

Your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects.
Signed by REBECCA SAMUEL,
and by about 1,870 others.

Kingston, Jamaica,
February 27th 1866.

No. 17.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 61.) King's House, March 10 1866.
(Received, March 31, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, at the request of Governor Eyre, copies of further addresses which have been presented to him.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 17.

ADDRESS from the Ladies of St. Elizabeth.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire.

SIR,

WE, the undersigned ladies of St. Elizabeth's, feeling that to your Excellency's exertions to save this Colony during the late important crisis we are, under God, indebted for the preservation of our lives and properties, desire to testify, by our united and heartfelt gratitude and sympathy, that we most deeply appreciate all you have endured on our behalf.

We must ever remember how at the first terrible news of the massacre in St. Thomas-ye-East, when all hearts were paralyzed with dismay and fear, you, dear sir, regardless of your own personal safety, unmindful even of your nearest and dearest ties, hastened to the scene of action, and by your promptitude and energy suppressed an insurrection that would otherwise have spread rapidly over every part of our Island; our hearts were then divided between sympathy for Mrs. Eyre and admiration of your own noble and intrepid conduct.

Most truly do we now realize also the danger that threatened our own parish in August last, when, through the wicked and disloyal reports that were fomented and circulated among our ignorant and exciteable peasantry, a general spirit of disaffection prevailed, the lives of our husbands and fathers were in jeopardy, and a fate worse than death awaited ourselves. On the representation of our good Custos, your Excellency promptly responded to our call for help and protection at that period, and our fears were for the time dissipated.

And how have these services been requited and honoured? We blush to think of the disgraceful vituperations that have so freely assailed your Excellency, and are indignant that such should ever have found a single advocate.

But calumny and misrepresentation have done their worst; the testimony of your own conscience, dear sir, that you have faithfully and loyally performed your duty to our beloved Queen and country, the prestige of your name, and the high character you bear for uprightness and integrity must be your present reward; and although we fear Jamaica will always be identified with all that is most painful and unsatisfactory in your experience, the grateful blessings of every true heart among us will follow you when you leave her shores, and future years will, we fervently trust, shower on you the honour and homage you deserve.

With us, sir, the case is unfortunately widely different; we feel that irreparable mischief has been done by the moral effect of the late proceedings on our population, our influence over them has been seriously weakened; we distrust the present calm, and fear the latent spirit of discontent fostered in their minds may at any moment burst into open rebellion.

Jamaica, though to many of us a permanent home, is, we fear, no longer a safe asylum to European

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families; for no Governor or British officer can for the future be expected to imperil his own life and reputation by incurring responsibilities which have been so ungenerously rewarded.

On yourself, Mrs. Eyre, and family, honoured sir, we invoke the richest blessings of health and happiness, and we beg to subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's obedient servants,
Signed by Miss SALMON and
by 61 others.

REPLY.

To Miss Salmon, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Isaacs, Miss Isaacs, Mrs. Smith, &c., &c. &c.

MISS SALMON AND LADIES OF ST. ELIZABETH,

I THANK you most sincerely for your warm-hearted address.

It is most gratifying to me to know that amidst all the obloquy and doubts with which my character and conduct have recently been assailed in England, I am so fortunate as to enjoy the good opinion and sympathy of the ladies of the Colony where the acts which have been impugned took place.

The testimony thus given in my favour by the good, the kind, the gentle, and the loving, is the best refutation I can adduce of the charges made against me of inhumanity or undue severity.

I can conscientiously assure you that throughout the whole of the late unhappy occurrences I was actuated by the single desire to do my duty faithfully as the Queen's representative, upon whom devolved the heavy and anxious responsibility of determining the steps to be taken to protect the lives and properties of the white and coloured inhabitants of this Island, suddenly imperilled by a most unexpected and savage insurrection, which threatened, if not at once stamped out, to become a general rebellion.

In such an emergency it was essential that the action of the Government should be prompt, certain, and severe.

That the steps taken were effectual, and the Colony saved from a succession of horrors and atrocities which can better be imagined than described, we owe to the merciful over-ruling of an all-wise God.

I shall ever rejoice that I was led to take a course which had so providential an issue, the reality of which no misrepresentation can gainsay or destroy.

That nothing may occur to interrupt the present state of quietude and peace, and that time may gradually restore and perpetuate amongst all classes the feelings of confidence and goodwill which have recently received so rude a shock, is my most anxious hope; and I fervently pray that God's best blessing may ever rest upon the hearths and homes of each one of you and upon all those who are near and dear to you. For your good wishes towards my wife, myself, and our family, I tender you my own and Mrs. Eyre's heartfelt thanks and gratitude.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Flamstead, February 16, 1866.

ADDRESS of the Ladies of Cornwall.

To His Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c.

SIR,

WE, the undersigned ladies residing in the county of Cornwall, Jamaica, and on its borders, beg to tender our heartfelt thanks to you for the prompt and wise measures which we believe, under God, to have been the means of saving us and our children from a fate too terrible to contemplate.

Deeply as we deplore that a necessity for so much bloodshed should have arisen, we feel that it would have been a cruel, unjust, and unwise mercy which could throw away the lives of a peaceable, loyal, and offenceless community for the sake of sparing the lives of murderers and rebels.

We believe that the blessing of God has rested on your brave efforts to save us and those whose lives are far more precious to us than our own, and we earnestly hope that the policy which has proved so effectual for the protection of our lives and properties so far will not be rashly abandoned.

Those among us who have passed safely through the late perils will ever remember that in all human probability to you, and to those who have so ably seconded your efforts, we owe our immunity, and we shall ever recall your name with feelings of the deepest gratitude and respect.

We remain, Sir,
Your obedient servants,
(Signed) CAREY KELLY, and
by 162 others.

REPLY.

To Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Corinaldi, Mrs. De Boniot Spencer Heaven, &c.

MRS. KELLY AND LADIES,

I THANK you gratefully for your address and for the generous expression of your opinion that the steps taken by me during the late rebellion were only such as the urgent circumstances of the moment made essential for the public safety.

Sincerely do I join with you in lamenting the necessity which compelled a resort to stern and severe measures, but I felt well assured that it was the only course which held out any prospect of grappling successfully with a great danger that had already overtaken one extensive district, and which threatened destruction to the entire Colony.

Permit me to assure you that, whatever may be my future lot, it will be the greatest gratification to me to believe that, under God's blessing, I have been instrumental in preserving your homes

from the horrors which a general rebellion must have entailed, and it will ever be my fondest recollection that my conduct in the hour of difficulty and danger has met with the approval and earned for me the good opinion and sympathy of the ladies of Jamaica. JAMAICA.

Flamstead, 24th February 1866.

No. 18. No. 18.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 66.) King's House, March 23, 1866.

Sir, (Received, April 12, 1866)

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, from the Rev. John Kingdon, on behalf of the congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion at Waldensia, in the parish of Trelawney, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty and their great concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 18. Encl. in No. 18.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

We, a congregation of Evangelical Dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, residing at Waldensia, in the parish of Trelawney, Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. John Kingdon, beg to approach our Sovereign with the expression of sincere respect for Your Majesty's person and loyal attachment to Your Majesty's Government.

We deeply mourn over the late outbreak, with all its melancholy and direful consequences, at Morant Bay, St. Thomas-in-the-East; and while we fully acquiesce in the punishment of all who took part in the disturbances, we would earnestly crave Your Majesty's attention to the large number of lives reported to have been taken and the large amount of property destroyed by those engaged in suppressing the outbreak.

We have been greatly concerned about the statements which have been put forth, in various ways, by his Excellency Governor Eyre, that the late riot was only part of a plan for a rebellion throughout the entire Island, for the purpose of destroying the white and coloured inhabitants.

We, a portion of Your Majesty's loyal subjects, beg to assure our gracious Sovereign that there is no truth in those statements so far as we ourselves are concerned, and to the best of our knowledge we affirm the same of our fellow-parishioners.

Our teachers have taught us to value human life by the price paid for its redemption by the Lord Jesus, and not only to be loyal but even grateful to Your Majesty's Government, and we could not entertain hostile feelings to the rule of our beloved Queen, and "murderous intentions" against the lives of our fellow-subjects, without exposing ourselves to the displeasure of God for time and eternity.

We offer our grateful thanks to Your Majesty for appointing a Commission to institute a searching inquiry into the nature and causes of the late outbreak, and also into the reasons of his Excellency for making these alarming assertions.

Permit us to assure Your Majesty that we are ready to rally round Your Majesty's Government, and to do all in our power, even to laying down our lives, in defending it against foes within and enemies without.

Our earnest prayer to God is that He will preserve Your Majesty's valuable life, and render Your reign very prosperous, and at length give You an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Signed on behalf of the church and congregation,

Waldensia, Falmouth, P.O., John Kingdon, Pastor.
March 1, 1866.

No. 19. No. 19.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 67.) King's House, March 23, 1866.

Sir, (Received, April 12, 1866.)

I have the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from the pastor and congregation of the Baptist churches at St. Ann's

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Bay and Ocho Rios, in the parish of St. Ann, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. in No. 19.

Enclosure in No. 19.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor, officers, and members of the Baptist churches and congregations in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society, assembling at Saint Ann's Bay and Ocho Rios, in the parish of Saint Ann and Island of Jamaica, numbering nearly 800 members, besides regular hearers and others, beg most humbly to approach Your Majesty to assure Your Majesty of our loyal and unwavering attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly desire to express to Your Majesty the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late revolt of a number of individuals in the eastern part of the Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the cruel murders said to have been committed, deeds of which we cannot think without shame and abhorrence, as repugnant to our holy religion and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your most gracious Majesty's subjects, who are laid under peculiar obligations to Your Majesty's most benignant reign.

We venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which we have reason to believe Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was local in its character, yet we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that though, as in every community throughout the civilized world, there may be found questionable characters, yet we do not believe that a spirit of sedition and rebellion exists amongst the inhabitants of this district.

We, therefore, truly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the unhappy events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotedness of Your Majesty's subjects.

We hereby beg to be allowed to convey to Your Majesty the expression of our hearfelt satisfaction on hearing that "the Legislature of this Island has passed a measure which has for its objects the making of the Island a Crown Colony," a measure which we hope will be attended with the happiest results to all classes of Your Majesty's subjects.

We are Your most gracious Majesty's most humble subjects,

(Signed) BENJAMIN MILLARD, Pastor, and by 195 others.

No. 20.

No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 76.) King's House, March 24, 1866.

SIR, (Received, April 12, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour, at the request of Governor Eyre, to transmit herewith a copy of an address presented to his Excellency by the Rev. Colin Maclaverty and the members of St. Peter's church.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. in No. 20.

Enclosure in No. 20.

REV. C. MACLAVERTY to Governor EYRE.

To His Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, &c., &c., &c.

SIR, Clifton Parsonage, March 12, 1866.

I HAVE the honour and pleasure to transmit herewith an address to your Excellency from the minister and members of St Peter's church, adopted at a meeting held at St. Peter's schoolhouse on the 10th instant.

It may probably be particularly interesting and gratifying to your Excellency to learn that, with one or two exceptions, the names subscribed to this address are those of black persons, thus evidencing

that intelligent and respectable blacks can appreciate and approve what is right and true, and censure what is wrong and false, even when those thus condemned are miscreants of their own colour, and unnatural sympathizers of the white race.

The names would probably have been much more numerous, but I regret to have to state that the poison of the gross misrepresentations which have been circulated seems to have so unsettled even some of my usually well-disposed church members that they appear unwilling to join in any expression of opinion at the present time. This may be attributed to the pernicious course pursued on the part of the officials of certain societies at a distance, arrogating to themselves and their agents to be the exclusive friends of the negro; while after nearly a quarter of a century's experience of this country and people, my conviction is that they have done more harm to the true interests of the negroes than they are aware of, and solemn and awful is their responsibility before God and man.

Begging to be permitted to add my personal admiration of your Excellency's history and character as a public man and private life as a Christian, and praying that every blessing may attend your Excellency, your amiable lady, and interesting family,

I remain, with deep respect, &c.,
(Signed) COLIN MACLAVERTY, M.A.
Incumbent of St. Peter's Church and Ecclesiastical Parish.

To His Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, St. Peter's Schoolhouse, March 10, 1866.

WE, the undersigned minister and members of St. Peter's Church, resident in the ecclesiastical parish adjoining to that of your Excellency's mountain residence, would beg to address your Excellency at this time with feelings of respectful sympathy and gratitude.

When there was apparently great and imminent danger of the late rebellion spreading and the rebels visiting our hitherto peaceful district, by your Excellency's promptitude and energy, experienced skill and firm determination, measures were devised and carried out, in concert with Her Majesty's military and naval forces, which speedily and effectually crushed the rebellion at its outset, and thus arrested its further progress from the neighbourhood where it originated, and its probable outbreak in other disaffected parts of the Island.

To your Excellency, and to the authorized powers of all branches which acted in concert with your Excellency for the supression of the rebellion, we feel that under God we owe our safety and the safety and peace of the Island. The further sacrifice of the lives of all classes and colours was thus spared; for had the rebellion gained ground even for a time, while it might have been death to those who loyally refused to join with the rebels, it would have been certainly so in the end, at the retributive hand of justice, to those who did join their lawless bands.

We regret to learn that your Excellency and those who so bravely acted with you in the late trying and dangerous emergency should have any blame imputed by parties at a distance to the course of action which stern necessity demanded to meet the exigencies of the sudden and murderous outbreak; but we are assured, from your Excellency's previous history and known humanity and piety, that no undue severity was intended or conveyed in your Excellency's instructions, nor was such carried into execution by the well-disciplined forces of Her Majesty's Service, and we doubt not that the impartial inquiry now being officially made will fully relieve your Excellency and all who acted with you from any imputation on your justice or humanity.

We feel assured that every colour and class was, and would be, safe in the hands of your Excellency while they continued in all things lawful and honest; and certain we may be, that he whose justice and humanity obtained for him the official position and name of "Protector to the Blacks" in other lands and former times, under circumstances requiring no small amount of moral and physical courage, will not now have turned hostile to that race whose true interests he laboured to promote not less justly and equally than those of his own race.

Believing that your Excellency's name and character will come out of the present ordeal only the more bright and honoured, and hoping that our beloved Queen may advance your Excellency, Her Majesty's tried and faithful servant, to still higher posts of honour, and praying that every blessing, both spiritual and temporal, may rest upon your Excellency, your amiable lady, and your family,

We beg to subscribe ourselves with deep gratitude, and most respectful sympathy,
Your Excellency's most humble and devoted servants,
(Signed) COLIN MACLAVERTY,
and by 72 others.

REPLY.

To the Rev. C. Maclaverty, William Davies, John MacDonald, Thomas Walker, &c., &c., &c.

REV. SIR AND MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH, Flamstead, March 14, 1866.

I THANK you most sincerely for your friendly address.

It is very pleasing to me to find that many of the people themselves appreciate the danger which existed during the late atrocious rebellion for all those who were loyal amongst the black race, as well as for the white and coloured inhabitants.

It is impossible that there can be any peace or safety of life or property for any one, or any general prosperity or happiness, unless all classes feel that their individual welfare and interests depend upon a mutual good feeling and confidence on the part of each towards the other, and this good feeling and

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confidence can only exist when christian love and forbearance, a ready obedience to and a respect for those in authority, and a cheerful submission to the laws of the country actuate and regulate the conduct of all.

You are right in believing that, as Governor of a colony inhabited by different races and classes, it was both my duty and my desire to favour none to the disadvantage of others, and that as far as lay in my power my endeavours have ever been directed to promote the interests and the welfare of all alike.

I thank you gratefully for your good wishes towards myself and family, and I pray that the Almighty may, in His infinite wisdom and power, so guide and direct the future conduct of all as to ensure peace and prosperity to the Colony at large and restored confidence and goodwill amongst all classes of its inhabitants.

(Signed.) E. EYRE.

No. 21.

No. 21.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 80.) King's House, April 4, 1866.
(Received, April 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of an address presented to me by various Baptist ministers of religion of this Island, together with a copy of my reply thereto.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Encl. in No. 21.

Enclosure in No. 21.

To Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the ministers of the Jamaica Baptist Union, assembled in annual session as representatives of the several churches and congregations under our pastoral care, numbering upwards of 50,000, principally of the labouring population, cheerfully embrace the present opportunity, the earliest that has been afforded us since your Excellency's arrival, of testifying our most sincere gratification at your Excellency's appointment as Governor of this Island and as President of the Royal Commission specially instituted at the present critical period of our colonial history.

It has been our custom, as ministers and members of the Baptist denomination voluntarily associated for the promotion of the cause of God in general, to address Governors on their entrance upon the duties of their office, not only from the respect we entertain for their exalted station as representatives of our beloved Sovereign, and in testimony of our continued and unabated loyalty to Her Majesty's person and throne, but also in assurance of our steady desire and aim to co-operate with their Excellencies as much as possible in their respective spheres by a frequent inculcation of obedience to law, respect for constituted authorities, and by promoting industry, social order, and happiness among our people, as well as by our more immediate efforts to advance the moral and religious interests of the community at large.

But additional motives urge our address to your Excellency at the present time. Your Excellency has assumed the government of the country at a period of more than ordinary interest and importance, under circumstances which cannot fail to excite in every patriotic and generous mind the deepest feelings of regret for the past and anxious hope for the future.

We hail your Excellency's arrival with peculiar joy, in the earnest expectation, from the distinguished character your Excellency has acquired for upright, impartial, and conciliatory, yet firm and judicious conduct in other parts of Her Majesty's dominions, that the application of the same energies and superior administrative ability, so absolutely necessary, will be manifested by your Excellency's rule in Jamaica, and thus, by the direction of a kind and gracious Providence, prove effectual in allaying discord and restoring tranquillity, as also in dispelling the gloom which beclouds our agricultural and commercial prospects.

But while we rejoice at your Excellency's accession to the government of this now distracted Colony as an auspicious event, we do not forget that our most Gracious Majesty the Queen selected your Excellency from amongst the most liberal and enlightened of Her public functionaries for the high and important office of President of the Royal Commission, in conjunction with other gentlemen distinguished for their ability and uprightness, for the arduous and difficult task of inquiring into the facts and consequences of the late disastrous riot, and earnestly pray that your united exertions to this end may be crowned with the most complete and eminent success.

We beg to record our sincere gratification as ministers, and the most cordial thanks of the thousands of our people, for the personal interviews with which your Excellency has honoured some of us, thereby giving us the opportunity of expressing our personal and individual assurances of our hearty desire to co-operate with your Excellency in your every effort for the public benefit. Nor less do we feel our pleasure excited by the urbanity with which the proffered services of some of us have been received, assured that such conduct and consideration by a ruler unbiassed by party influence, and free from prejudice and official reserve, in a country where so large a portion of the middle and

lower classes of the population in particular are distinguished by diversity of colour and religious creed, it is not only wise and politic, but essential to the general promotion of goodwill, as also to secure to your Excellency the love and confidence and co-operation of all in every station in life and of every shade of religious belief in every measure promotive of the general good.

As citizens of the country, and having interests in it by no means inconsiderable, apart from our ministerial office, we must not conclude this address without referring to the change to be effected in our local institution. We trust that it will be the honour and happiness of your Excellency to inaugurate a new system of administration which will cement and perpetuate our connexion with the parent state, and afford a guarantee for future harmony between popular sentiment and the acts of Government, attract capital and enterprise to our shores, and thus render us a united, contented, and prosperous people.

While we cannot but apologise for the length of this address, we at the same time beg permission to express our earnest hope for your Excellency's long life, honour, and happiness in the present world, and to assure your Excellency that your spiritual and eternal interests will be objects of our earnest solicitude and prayers.

Signed on behalf of the churches and congregations we represent,

JAMES M. PHILLIPPO, Spa Town,
and by 26 others.

GENTLEMEN,

I RETURN you my best thanks for the address you have presented to me, and for the cordial expressions contained in it as regards myself.

I look forward with confience to the restoration of prosperity, order, and good feeling throughout the Island, and gladly avail myself of your promised co-operation and assistance for the attainment of these objects.

I trust that the changes which are about to take place in the institutions of the country will be productive of the good results which are anticipated from them. It is the earnest desire of Her Majesty's Government to make use of the powers conferred upon them by the Legislature of Jamaica and by the Imperial Parliament in such a manner as may best provide for the good government of the Colony, may advance, by giving confidence to capitalists, the restoration of prosperity, and may prepare the way for future measures calculated to promote the welfare of the great body of the population of this Island.

It will be the endeavour of the local Government, by strict impartiality and honesty of purpose, by firmly upholding the law for the preservation of public order, and by recognizing and protecting the rights of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, to secure the respect and affection of a prosperous and contented people.

Let me assure you, gentlemen, in conclusion, that when the duties of my temporary mission are terminated I shall always retain a grateful recollection of the support and assistance I have received from all parties in Jamaica.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 86.) King's House, April 7, 1866.
(Received, April 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, by request of Governor Eyre, a copy of an address which has been presented to His Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 22.

THE ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-EAST ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR EYRE.

The following address has been presented to His Excellency Governor Eyre by the Custos, Rector, Magistrates, Clergy, Ladies, and other inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East:—

To His Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned, the custos, rector, magistrates, clergy, ladies, and others, inhabitants of the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, desire to approach your Excellency with deep and heartfelt gratitude for the eminent services you rendered us and the people of Jamaica in the prompt suppression of the late horrible rebellion; and in doing so we would remark that the delay which has occurred in sending this address to your Excellency arose solely from the fact that up to the present hour this parish has been so unsettled and the inhabitants so scattered and anxious that they have been unable earlier to express the high sense they entertain of the debt they owe your Excellency.

We assure your Excellency that we deeply sympathize with you at this moment, when a certain section of the English people are calumniating your Excellency for the steps taken to suppress the late rebellion; for we, far more than the inhabitants of any other parish, have cause to know that had any less decisive measures been adopted nothing could have saved us and the rest of the white and coloured population of Jamaica from a like horrible and cruel fate to that which befel those of our relations and fellow-parishioners who were so brutally murdered on the 11th of October.

We are deeply grieved and astonished to find that any one bearing the name of Englishman should, regardless of truth and totally ignorant of all the dangers that menaced the country, and evidently actuated by party feelings and false philanthropy, prejudge and condemn unheard the noble conduct pursued by you.

We who live amid the very scenes of the late rebellion well know the difficulties which surrounded you, and believe that the fact of your Excellency being Governor of Jamaica at this critical period of its history was a merciful appointment of Divine Providence; for we are convinced that no one could be found who would have crushed the outbreak in a more effective and satisfactory manner.

These, your Excellency, are our opinions, grounded on a personal knowledge of the fearful scenes which took place. The calumnies heaped on your Excellency have, we believe, originated with a certain class of politicians at home who are not only ignorant of what has happened, but who are also actuated by party feelings.

Trusting that we may shortly see your Excellency relieved from your present most unmerited position, and that, your noble conduct being at length properly appreciated and commensurately rewarded, we may witness your Excellency again installed with honours as our Governor, we unite in invoking the best blessings of the Almighty on your Excellency, Mrs. Eyre, and family.

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves,
Your Excellency's most grateful and obedient servants,
PETER A. ESPEUT, Custos.
S. H. COOKE, Rector.
W. P. GEORGES, J.P. and member of Assembly;
and by 238 others.

To which His Excellency made the following Reply:—

To the Honourable Peter Alexander Espeut, the Honourable William P. Georges, the Reverend Stephen H. Cooke, &c., &c., &c.

MR. CUSTOS, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you very sincerely for your address expressing your appreciation of the exertions made by the Government to suppress and punish the most atrocious rebellion by which your parish was recently desolated.

I can assure you that both I and all the officers, civil, military, and naval, acting with me, were most anxiously alive to the awful position in which the inhabitants of your parish were placed during the late insurrection; that we deeply sympathized with you under the sufferings and bereavements to which you were subjected, and that our unceasing endeavours were directed first towards securing the safety of those amongst you who had escaped the peril of the first outbreak, and secondly towards putting down and punishing the rebellion.

That the steps taken were eminently successful in securing the desired results will ever be to me a most gratifying recollection, and in the conviction that I did my duty, I can well disregard the calumnies of those who have condemned my conduct without having before them any means of judging of the necessity for the course taken.

For your good wishes towards myself and family, I return you my own and Mrs. Eyre's most grateful acknowledgment.

Flamstead, 29th March 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

No. 23.

No. 23.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 104.) King's House, May 4, 1866.
(Received, May 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from the pastors and congregations connected with the Baptist Missionary Society at Thompson Town, Smith Ville, Mount Olivet, and Kilsythe, in the parish of Clarendon, expressing their loyalty to Her Majesty, and their deep concern and grief at the late disturbances in the Eastern Districts of this Island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 23. JAMAICA.

To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen. Encl. in No. 23.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned most loyal subjects of Your Majesty, the pastor and officers and members of the Baptist churches and congregations connected with the Baptist Missionary Society, at Thompson Town, Smith Ville, Mount Olivet, and Kilsythe, in the parish of Clarendon, Jamaica, congregations numbering about 900 persons, approach Your Majesty with the humble desire of assuring Your Majesty of our loyal, unwavering, and devoted attachment to Your Majesty's person and throne.

We humbly assure Your Majesty of the deep concern and grief with which we have heard of the late wicked revolt of a number of individuals, in one or two of the Eastern parishes of this Island, against the lawfully constituted authorities acting in Your Majesty's name, and of the atrocious cruelties said to have been committed; deeds which we cannot think of without shame and abhorrence as repugnant to our holy religion, and all the teachings and ministrations to which we have ever been accustomed, and as being calculated to excite suspicion in Your Majesty's mind of the devoted loyalty of a portion of Your Majesty's subjects laid under peculiar obligations to Your most gracious Majesty's benignant reign.

But we humbly venture to express our conviction that the result of the inquiries which Your Majesty has been most graciously pleased to institute will show that the outbreak was strictly local in its character, and that the spirit which it betrayed was confined to the locality in which it occurred.

And we crave permission to assure Your Majesty that a spirit of sedition and rebellion has no existence in the districts in which we live, and that if it had that, with ourselves, Your Majesty's subjects around us are too true and loyal to connive at it, and would be found prompt and energetic in co-operating with the authorities to put it down.

We, therefore, humbly and earnestly pray that Your Majesty will be most graciously pleased not to allow the events of the late outbreak, or any representations which may have arisen out of it, to disquiet the mind of Your Majesty touching the loyalty and devotion of any class of Your Majesty's subjects in this Island, while we are sure that Your Majesty will not only command that inquiry shall be made into the causes of this sad and wicked outbreak, but also a just and impartial investigation into the penalties with which it has been visited,—penalties which it is commonly reported have involved the sacrifice of more than 2,000 of the lives of Your Majesty's subjects.

We further crave Your Majesty's permission to express our unfeigned satisfaction in the measure which has passed the Legislature of this Island with a view to constitute it a Crown Colony, and venture most sincerely to hope that it will receive the sanction of Your Majesty; rejoicing as we do exceedingly in the prospect of our affairs being under the direct superintendence and control of Your Majesty, and believing that, under present circumstances, this part of Your Majesty's dominions is not in a condition to be governed by representative institutions.

Praying most fervently that He by whom kings rule, and princes decree justice, may long preserve Your Majesty in health and happiness to rule in the affections of a devoted and loyal people, and may continue to the British empire, over which Your Majesty so happily bears sway, that peace and prosperity with which it has of late years been so highly favoured,

We remain Your Majesty's
Most faithful and loving subjects.
(Signed by GEO. MOODIE, Pastor;
and by 252 others.)

No. 24. No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 130.) King's House, June 20, 1866.
(Received, July 13, 1866.)
(Answered, No. 25, July 28, 1866, page 58.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial from certain Baptist Ministers of this Island addressed to Earl Russell.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 24. Encl. in No. 24.

The humble Memorial of certain Baptist Ministers in the Parish of St. James, in the Island of Jamaica.

To the Right Honourable Earl Russell, Chief Secretary of State, &c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

THAT your memorialists are Baptist ministers labouring in the parish of St. James, in the county of Cornwall, in the Island of Jamaica. That during the month of September in the year 1865 three of your memorialists forwarded to the Honourable Edward Cardwell, Colonial Secretary, a memorial complaining of very serious charges brought against them by Governor Eyre. The receipt of that memorial was duly acknowledged. Your memorialists, my Lord, respectfully submit that in

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reference to charges so serious as those made, reflecting as they do both on their loyalty and Christianity, your memorialists can hardly be expected to remain satisfied by a simple acknowledgment of their memorial.

But your memorialists have further to complain that subsequently charges of a still more serious character have been brought against them by Mr. Eyre.

In a despatch which bears date October 25th, 1865, and published in the Blue Book, are the following words: * * * "fifthly, a few Baptist missionaries like Messrs. Henderson, Reid, Dendy, Hewett, " and Maxwell, who endorse at public meetings or otherwise all the untruthful statements or inuendoes " propagated in Dr. Underhill's letter." And again, in a despatch accompanying a memorial signed by nearly all the dissenting ministers in the parish of St. James of every denomination, and dated December 22d, 1865, Governor Eyre says: "I have only to remark with regard to the Baptist ministers " that most of them are the gentlemen who took such a prominent part in the Underhill meetings in " support of all Dr. Underhill's allegations, and who subsequently treated the 'Queen's advice' to the " people of Jamaica in so disloyal and unbecoming a manner. * * * These are the kind of men " who, by mistaken views and misdirected efforts, tend to stir up sedition and rebellion in the minds of " an ignorant and debased population." In a subsequent despatch, Mr. Eyre (there can be no doubt referring to your memorialists) says, "If Jamaica is to be retained at all, it will be necessary to pass a " law in the Colony authorizing the deportation of all persons who, leaving their proper sphere of " action as ministers of religion, become political demagogues and dangerous agitators." Your memorialists, my Lord, submit that these charges brought against your memorialists are of a most serious kind, and cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged, rendering them, as they do, if true, utterly unfit to occupy those important positions in which they have been placed by the Baptist Missionary Society.

Your memorialists, my Lord, would have addressed you at an earlier date, only they had hoped an opportunity would have been afforded them of disproving the charges before the Royal Commissioners. Your memorialists, however, on presenting themselves before those gentlemen, were informed that their complaints did not come within the scope of the enquiry of the Royal Commissioners. Your memorialists, my Lord, now claim at the hands of your Lordship that justice which they feel they have a right to expect, and they are certain, from what they know of your Lordship, it will not be withholden from them. Four of your memorialists are European missionaries, all of whom have been labouring in the Island over a quarter of a century; whilst the fifth, Mr. Maxwell, is a native of the Colony, trained for the work of the Christian ministry at the Baptist college at Calabar, in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society. Your memorialists, my Lord, are men with families, and bound up with the well-being of the Colony by the most tender ties. Above all, they are men who fear God, teachers of the Christian religion, which inculcates the most positive obedience to constituted authority; and they are pained beyond anything they can express, by being represented to Her Majesty's Government as men whose misdirected efforts are calculated to stir up sedition and rebellion. Two of your memorialists feel they have just cause of complaint, in the fact that their correspondence passing through the Post Office has been violated, and they, than whom Her most Gracious Majesty has no more loyal and loving subjects, treated as suspected and disloyal individuals.

Your memorialists further feel it due to themselves to inform your Lordship, that one of their number never attended an Underhill meeting at all; that three others only attended one, that held in their own parish, and called by his honour the custos; whilst the fifth only attended, besides the one at Montego Bay, one other at Sa-le-Mer, he having a station in the parish of Westmoreland. Your memorialists do not mention these facts because they think the so-called Underhill meetings were calculated to do harm, but to show your Lordship how grossly they have been misrepresented to Her Majesty's Government by Mr. Eyre, who speaks of your memorialists as "political demagogues and dangerous agitators." Your memorialists feel, my Lord, that your Lordship will not allow matters to remain as they are.

Your memorialists feel (and are certain that they will have the sympathy of your Lordship with the feeling) that the charges brought against your memorialists should be either proved or retracted.

Your memorialists never can believe that your Lordship will conceive a simple acknowledgment of this memorial sufficient to satisfy the claim your memorialists have upon Her Majesty's Government for justice.

We are, my Lord,
Your Lordship's humble and obedient servants,
(Signed) WALTER DENDY, Salters Hill.
JOHN EDWARD HENDERSON, Montego Bay.
EDWARD HEWETT, Mount Carey.
JAMES REID, Montego Bay.

No. 25.

No. 25.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 138.) King's House, June 23, 1866.

SIR, (Received, July 13, 1866.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a memorial addressed to the Queen by certain magistrates, clergy, and others, inhabitants of the parish of Manchester.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 25.

Encl. in No. 25.

To the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Magistrates, Clergy, Proprietors, Landholders, and others, inhabitants of the parish of Manchester, in the said Island,

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

THAT Your petitioners have learnt with regret the proposition to conjoin in the future government of this Island, in the appointment of a nominee council, those evils which it was the principal aim, by the abolishing our pre-existing form of government, to destroy.

That this was the first proposition submitted by the ex-government of Jamaica for the adoption of the colonial legislature when they were urged to abolish their form of government; but the project was so generally disfavoured that it was withdrawn, and two other proposals made, which were successively passed into law, under the last of which the functions of the local legislature were altogether abdicated and transferred to the British Government.

That in the constitution to be inaugurated for the future government of Jamaica we humbly implore Your Majesty to confine the authority to be delegated to British statesmen exclusively, two of whom, in co-operation with the Governor, will be found sufficient to re-model and re-organize the institutions, and to carry on the affairs of the country.

By the adoption of the nominee element the antagonisms and local prejudices will be renewed which by the abolition of the legislature it was the aim of all good men to destroy.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

(Signed by JOHN R. HOLLINGSWORTH,
Custos Rotulorum and Member of Assembly;
and by 30 others.)

No. 26.

No. 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 142.) King's House, July 5, 1866.

(Received, July 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from Governor Eyre, enclosing addresses which have recently been presented to him.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 26.

Encl. in No. 26

Governor EYRE to Governor Sir H. STORKS.

SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, July 2, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to request your Excellency will be good enough to transmit to England the enclosed addresses which have recently been presented to me.

I have, &c.,

His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR EYRE.

The united Address of the Inhabitants of the parishes of Port Royal and St. David, as agreed to at a meeting held at General Jackson's, Mahogany Vale, on the 8th June 1866.

To his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esq., Captain-General and Governor of Jamaica, &c. &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned inhabitants and owners and representatives of property in the mountain districts of the parishes of Port Royal and St. David, desire to express to your Excellency our deep and lasting gratitude for the wise, prompt, and effective measures which your Excellency took for suppressing the late atrocities rising in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

Though we should have been amongst the first to thank your Excellency for the prompt, unhesitating, and successful course you pursued, as we and our families were in the immediate neighbourhood where the shocking outrages were committed, yet we take this opportunity of assuring your Excellency that our tardiness did not arise from any want of gratitude.

We believe the rebellion had not only for its object the overthrow of constituted authority, but also the massacre of the white and coloured people who owned and represented property, and then its division amongst the lower orders; and we rejoice to be able to bear testimony that your Excellency was anything but "unequal to the occasion." We are glad to have this opportunity of bearing witness to the alacrity with which your Excellency ordered a detachment of the 6th Royals, to be sent to the Monkland's district of the Blue Mountain Valley, under the command of the late gallant Colonel Hobbs

(whose untimely death we deeply deplore) to co-operate with the troops at Morant Bay. To this wise and vigorous measure we owe it that the rebellion did not extend into the above-named parishes, when the savage deeds of murder, destruction, and plunder of St Thomas-in-the-East would have been again perpetrated.

We deeply regret to know that a section of the British public, evidently ignorant and misinformed as to the character of the late rebellion, and the state of the Colony at the time, should have misjudged your Excellency, and have attributed to you unnecessary severity in the means adopted for the suppression of the rebellion, and for the punishment of those who engaged in or incited to it.

Your Excellency could not superintend or control the minor details demanded by the occasion, but we are assured, from our knowledge of your character as a humane and conscientious governor, that you would not knowingly lend yourself, or your high authority, to any measures which you did not think just and necessary under the circumstances. We trust and believe that the majority of the British public will, before long, do your Excellency justice, in the opinion which they will entertain of your general conduct since the 11th of October last. But, whatever may be the opinions of the British public respecting the late rebellion, the white and coloured inhabitants of this colony can never forget the imminent danger which recently threatened them ; and that the mistaken action of a section of the British public may have the worst possible effects upon the ignorant and easily excited peasantry of this Colony, who may rise again in rebellion when the measures for its suppression may not be so effective as in the last.

We assure your Excellency of our deep sympathy with you at the present time, and of our heartfelt wishes that when time has calmed the minds of men respecting the late rebellion, that to your Excellency may be extended that justice which you so much deserve, and that admiration which your heroic conduct has so well earned.

For your Excellency, your respected lady, and interesting family, we wish every desired blessing, and with renewed assurances of our respect and gratitude,

We have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient servants.
(Signed by FORBES JACKSON,
Major-General, Mahogany Vale, and J.P. ;
and by 35 others.)

REPLY.

To Major-General Jackson, Henry Coppard, Esq., the Rev. C. Fyfe, and the other gentlemen signing the united Address of the inhabitants of the parishes of Port Royal and St. David.

MAJOR-GENERAL JACKSON, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you very sincerely for your address. It is most gratifying to me to know that the inhabitants of Port Royal and St. David's approve of the measures taken by me to suppress the late rebellion. From your vicinity to the scene of the outbreak you are well qualified to judge of its character and tendency, and of the necessity which existed for prompt and decisive action.

With you I most sincerely deplore the sad and untimely fate of the late Colonel Hobbs, who commanded the troops operating upon the line of the Blue Mountain Valley.

You do me no more than justice, gentlemen, in believing that it is not my character to resort to measures of extreme severity, unless under the full conviction that such had become necessary for the preservation of the Colony, and then I could have no hesitation as to the course it became my duty to take.

I fully anticipate that when the whole of the circumstances connected with the late unhappy events shall have been made known to the public, much of the obloquy which has been cast upon the authorities, under an imperfect knowledge of facts, or upon misrepresentations made to serve partizan views, will be removed, and that the action taken under a great emergency will then be judged more justly.

For your good wishes towards myself and family I tender you my own and Mrs. Eyre's very grateful thanks.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Kingston, June 23, 1866.

ADDRESS TO GOVERNOR EYRE.

The following is the Address from the Ladies of the Upper Districts of the parishes of St. David and Port Royal to his Excellency Governor Eyre for his zealous conduct during the recent rebellion.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned ladies of the parishes of St. David and Port Royal, cannot permit your Excellency to leave our shores before recording our most grateful and lasting thanks for your great activity and zeal displayed in suppressing the late wicked rising in St. Thomas-in-the-East, whereby ourselves and children might have been sacrificed to an atrocious and heathenish conspiracy, such as is dreadful to contemplate.

And we further beg to express our deep sympathy for the great anxiety you have suffered from a section of the British public, who neither knew our social condition, or state of society, and were but too ready to cast aspersions and place wrong constructions on your conduct as Governor, not taking into consideration the critical and responsible position you were placed in.

We will ever pray for the welfare of Mrs. Eyre, yourself, and children; and may God in his Divine wisdom bestow on you the reward due for the protection of our hearths and homes, and everything we hold dear. JAMAICA.

We have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient servants.
(Signed by CHARLOTTE HELEN LASCELLES;
and by 39 others.)

REPLY.

To Mrs. Lascelles, Miss Lascelles, Mrs. Jackson, and the other Ladies of the Upper Districts of the parishes of Saint David and Port Royal.

LADIES,

ACCEPT my grateful thanks for your address of sympathy under the obloquy and misrepresentation to which I have been subjected for the course of action taken by me in subduing the late rebellion in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

I endeavoured to discharge faithfully a very trying and painful duty under a great emergency; and I conscientiously believe the steps taken to have been both just and necessary.

That they were successful is a source of great satisfaction to me, whilst the assurance which you now convey to me, that they met with the approval of the ladies living in the districts contiguous to the scene of the disturbance is very gratifying, and ought to be regarded by persons at a distance as indicating that no unnecessary severity was exercised under sanction of the authorities.

Mrs. Eyre unites with me in thanking you for your kind good wishes towards ourselves and children, and in hearty reciprocation that every blessing may attend each one of you in your respective homes.

(Signed) E. EYRE.

Kingston, June 23, 1866.

No. 27. No. 27.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 155.) King's House, 24 July 1866.
(Received, August 13, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, at the request of Mr. Eyre, a copy of an address presented to him on his departure from Jamaica, and of his reply thereto.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 27.

Enclosure in No. 27.

Address to Mr. Eyre. Mr. Eyre's reply.

SIR, Kingston, Jamaica, 24th July 1866.

I have the honour to transmit (in duplicate) copies of an address which has been presented to me upon my departure from Jamaica, and of my reply thereto.

I shall be obliged by your transmitting those documents to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have &c.,
(Signed) E. EYRE.

P.S.—Owing to the address having only been presented yesterday I am unable to furnish the duplicate copy of my reply in time for the mail, but Colonel Hunt will furnish a duplicate in print either this evening or to-morrow morning. I am also unable, from the shortness of the time, to furnish a copy of the signatures. Indeed I am informed by the Committee who presented the address that a large number of signatures are expected up by early posts, and will be transmitted to me by next packet. The names at present attached number about 1,300, comprising persons chiefly near Kingston, or who could be communicated with by a single post.

E. E.

To his Excellency EDWARD JOHN EYRE, Esquire, late Governor of Jamaica.

Kingston, Jamaica, 14th July 1866.

WE, the undersigned inhabitants of Kingston, and others, cannot refrain from offering to your Excellency and Mrs. Eyre our most sincere sympathy with you on your departure from the Colony.

We rejoice that after a searching inquiry the Royal Commissioners have reported to Her Majesty "that praise is due to your Excellency for your skill, promptitude, and vigour in the recent insurrec-

tion; and that to the exercise of such qualities by you, its speedy termination is to be attributed;" and we heartily congratulate your Excellency, that there has been evinced, both in this country and abroad, a general approbation of your conduct in having saved a Colony to the Queen, and homes and lives to the Queen's subjects in this Her island of Jamaica.

It is our firm conviction that a more intimate aquaintance, on the part of the Imperial Government, with the local affairs of the Colony and its condition, as well as with the true nature of events which had endangered and might continue to threaten the peace and welfare of the country, would have shielded from censure a faithful servant of the Crown.

We, nevertheless, feel assured, that when political passions shall have given place to reason and to justice, the vast majority of your fellow-subjects, and others interested in the maintenance of public safety and order, will consider that an officer who (unaided by any instructions from superior authority in times of extreme and sudden difficulty and very grave national peril) has, on the whole, done his duty nobly and well, ought not, for any minor error, or excess of his subordinates, to be otherwise than most favourably dealt with.

We earnestly trust that a time will soon arrive when the momentous services which your Excellency has recently rendered to Jamaica may meet with that distinguished reward which Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen so well knows how to confer on those whom she cannot doubt to be meritorious officers.

That every blessing may be heaped upon your Excellency, Mrs. Eyre, and your children, is, we believe, the fervent hope of all the loyal and grateful people of Jamaica.

To the Honourable L. Bowerbank, J. S. Brown, J. S. Brown, J. McDowell, W. S. Cooper, W. Titley, J. S. Williams, R. Nunes, F. Ebbeke, F. Lyons, A. Malabre, A. De Cordova, Esquires, &c. &c. &c.

MR. CUSTOS, REVEREND GENTLEMEN, and GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you most sincerely for your very gratifying address of sympathy with me on the occasion of my departure from Jamaica.

It is only natural that after serving my Queen and country zealously, and I hope not uselessly, for 25 years (since September 1841) and after having had the honour of representing my Sovereign in both hemispheres as Lieutenant Governor or Governor for nearly 20 years (since December 1846), I should feel some pain and regret that my career should now be abruptly terminated by removal from the public service, under the disapproval and censure of the Colonial Minister.

But this pain and regret are greatly lessened by the reflection that, however able or impartial the parties may be by whom my conduct has been inquired into and adjudicated upon, it is impossible that persons imperfectly acquainted with the negro character, with the country, and with the circumstances which surrounded me at the time, can judge adequately or justly, after the event, of the necessity or propriety of the action I found it imperative to take under a great emergency.

The points on which I am condemned are three:—

First, for permitting the trial and execution of G. W. Gordon:

Secondly, for continuing martial law and the trials by courts-martial after the proclamation of the amnesty on the 30th October:

Thirdly, for not being aware of the excesses committed under martial law, and for not issuing instructions which would have prevented those excesses.

With regard to the first, I can only repeat my conviction that, however defective the evidence may have been in a strictly legal point of view, Mr. Gordon was the proximate occasion of the insurrection and of the cruel massacre of particular individuals whom he regarded as his personal enemies, and that therefore he suffered justly.

No impartial person can, I think, read the report of the Royal Commissioners without coming to the same conclusion.

The court before which he was tried was not a court of law, but it was a perfectly legal court.

To have issued a Special Commission to try him was wholly impracticable at the time, whilst to have kept him as a prisoner for future trial would have had a very bad effect, and might have been dangerous in the extreme in the excited and precarious state that the country was then in.

I believe that it was only through the firmness and decision of the Government in dealing with this case summarily that seditious teachings and the spread of the rebellion were checked.

Indeed, in my opinion, the prompt trial and execution of Geo. W. Gordon had more effect in preventing further risings in other parishes than any of the steps taken by the Government.

Mr. Gordon was regarded by the negroes generally throughout the Island as an Obeahman is by his immediate neighbours,—as all powerful and beyond the reach of ordinary jurisdiction.

His trial and execution removed this delusion, and showed that the authority of the Queen was supreme.

Nor was he the only person of better position and education engaged in stiring up and exciting the negro mind.

It was absolutely necessary that a stop should be put to this action, and it could only be done by the immediate trial of the chief agitator, and that trial could only take place by court-martial, under the then existing circumstances.

With regard to the continuance of martial law, and of trials by courts-martial after the 30th October, it must be remembered that during the whole period for which martial law was in force, and for some time afterwards, the accounts daily received from the various parishes in the Island led the Government to believe the whole country to be still in a state of great excitement and peril, and that further risings amongst the negroes might take place at any moment or in any direction; and although additional troops had arrived the total number in the Colony was still very insufficient to cope with anything like a general insurrection, or even to occupy and protect many districts at a time, had active military operations become necessary.

It was essential to over-awe the disaffected, known to be numerous in most parishes of the Island.

For this the continuance of martial law became requisite, and it was only by the continuance of the trials and punishments of those guilty of rebellion that the existence of martial law would be believed in.

But there were also no gaols or prisons in which any large number of prisoners could be kept for future trial; and, even had it been practicable, delay in dealing with persons charged with the more serious offences committed during the insurrection would have had a most injurious effect in other parts of the colony, ripe as they also were for rebellion.

With regard to the trials which thus took place before courts-martial, after the most searching scrutiny which practised lawyers could institute,—a scrutiny to which I believe proceedings under martial law were scarcely ever before subjected, and from which I venture to think that few would have come out with less of censure, the Commissioners report: "In the great majority of the cases "the evidence seems to have been unobjectionable in character, and quite sufficient to justify the find- "ing of the court. It is right also to state that the account given by the more trustworthy witnesses "as to the manner and deportment of the courts were decidedly favourable."

That the Government earnestly desired to show as much leniency as considerations affecting the safety of other parts of the Island permitted, is evidenced by the early date at which an amnesty was proclaimed, under which large numbers of persons were absolved from the penalties of all lesser crimes, though the more serious ones were still, for a limited time (prescribed by Act), to be dealt with by courts-martial.

I may here state that as soon as it was known that martial law was to terminate at the end of the statutory period of 30 days, I was waited upon by members of the legislature and custodes to urge upon me an extension of it; and I am quite certain that, had I attempted to curtail the limited period which by law it had to run, consternation and apprehension would have been universal.

Even after martial law had expired, and notwithstanding the very numerous trials which had taken place under it, a large number of prisoners charged with the graver offences committed during the rebellion still had to be dealt with, of whom very many were found guilty on trial before a special commission, and were sentenced by a civil court, in some cases to death, in others to long terms of imprisonment.

In reference to my not having been aware of the excesses committed during martial law, I would only ask how was it possible that I, necessarily detained at the seat of Government in anxiously watching over the interests and providing for the safety of the Island generally, as well as in attending to the laborious duties of a most important legislative session, could make myself acquainted with occurrences which even Brigadier General Nelson, the able officer commanding in the districts where they were taking place, heard nothing of.

Those who know anything of the nature of the country in Jamaica, and the few facilities which exist for inter-communication, will readily understand that at any time, but especially during the rainy season, which was at its height during the suppression of the rebellion, it is physically impossible to learn or to control all that is going on throughout a tract of country so extensive as that occupied by our troops during martial law.

But the truth is that excesses must always take place under martial law, and especially when black troops, who are often wholly beyond the control of their officers, are employed.

No one can regret these excesses more than I do. It is, however, upon those whose acts made martial law necessary, or upon the people, who, by not coming forward to uphold the Queen's authority and protect life and property, encouraged such acts, that these excesses are chargeable; not upon the authorities who are compelled to resort to that stern remedy to put down or prevent the extension of rebellion.

Did no excesses occur in repressing the Indian Mutiny? Or were the authorities there made responsible for not knowing of or not preventing them?

In that case it was not thought necessary, as it was here, to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to rake up and parade before the world every allegation of injury which an ignorant and excitable population, in many respects little removed from savages, whose habit is untruthfulness, and vindictive at having been foiled in their recent rebellion, could be induced to bring forward, whether well or ill founded, against those who had the onerous and thankless task of putting down that rebellion.

With regard to the non-issuing by me of instructions for the guidance of the military, I have only to point out that Her Majesty's instructions to governors lay down the rule, that it is the duty of the Governor to give all necessary orders for the march and distribution of troops, but expressly enjoin him to leave all details connected with the carrying out those orders to the military authorities.

When martial law is proclaimed in a district, the case is even still stronger; for then all civil jurisdiction is absolutely superseded, and the entire and sole management of the district so circumstanced becomes vested in the general in command.

I have thought it right to make these observations, not to repudiate any responsibility properly attaching to me, or to excuse any short comings or errors in my own conduct, but as feeling it due to myself to you and to the British public to state some few of the considerations which influenced me in reference to the particulars in which my conduct has been most strongly condemned.

And I the more gladly make these statements to you, gentlemen, because from your having been in the Colony at the time, and from your long and practical acquaintance with the country, the people, and the circumstances which existed during the period referred to, you are in a better position than any other persons can be to judge of the value of them, and to know how far I did my duty to the Colony and to my Sovereign in the hour of difficulty and danger.

Even the Royal Commissioners, labouring as they did under all the disadvantages of unacquaintance with the character of the country, the people, and the circumstances of the moment, and making their enquiries after the event from a people naturally untruthful and stimulated by the impression sedulously instilled into them by designing persons, that the Queen was on their side, and desired to obtain evidence against and punish the authorities engaged in suppressing the rebellion,—even the Royal Commissioners, labouring under all these disadvantages, have been compelled to admit:—

"That though the original design for the overthrow of constituted authority was confined to a small

JAMAICA.

" portion of St. Thomas-in-the East, yet that the disorder in fact spread with singular rapidity over an " extensive tract of country ; and that such was the state of excitement prevailing in the other parts of " the Island, that, had more than a momentary success been obtained by the insurgents, their ultimate " overthrow would have been attended with a still more fearful loss of life and property."

And they have very justly remarked that "Sometimes the success of the measures adopted for the " prevention of an evil deprive the authors of those measures of the evidence they would otherwise have " had of their necessity."

Had I hesitated there would have been evidence enough of this necessity; but what would have been said of me for not having prevented "the still more fearful loss of life and property."

The Royal Commissioners and Her Majesty's Government have been pleased to give me credit for " skill, promptitude and vigour " on the occurrence of a great emergency ; and to state that " to my " exercise of these qualities the speedy termination of the insurrection is due." I am told that " I showed " myself superior to the feelings of alarm expressed and entertained by those around me." And Her Majesty's Government further " express their sense of the promptitude and judgment with which I " submitted to the Legislature the views which I entertained, and in which they so readily concurred, " as to the expediency of effecting a decided change in the mode of Government of the Colony," views which have since " been confirmed by the sanction of the Crown, and an Act of the Imperial " Government."

Why should they not equally give me credit for having exercised a sound judgement in the lesser matter of continuing martial law for a limited time after the proclamation of the amnesty, although they, acting as my judges after the event, without the necessary local experience, and when the very success of my measures had deprived me of the evidence of their necessity, are unable to appreciate so clearly the force of the considerations which influenced me in this matter, as they do in the circumstances which surrounded the commencement of the rebellion or the change effected in the Constitution.

With regard to the case of Mr. Gordon, the Royal Commissioners, labouring under the disadvantages already adverted to, and looking at the proceedings as lawyers naturally would do, that is, in connexion with the strict rules and practice of courts of law (though I have already shown the court before which Mr. Gordon was tried was not a court of law, though a perfectly legal court), whilst expressing their opinion that they " cannot see in the evidence which has been adduced any sufficient proof (that " is, I presume, according to the strict rules and practice of courts of law) either of his complicity in " the outbreak at Morant Bay, or of his having been a party to a general conspiracy against the " Government, " yet distinctly record " we have formed the opinion that the true explanation of Mr. " Gordon's conduct was to be found in the account he has given of himself:—I have just gone as far as " I can go, but no further. If I wanted a rebellion I could have had one long ago. I have been " asked several times to head a rebellion; but there is no fear of that. I will try first a demonstration " of it, but I must first upset that fellow Herschell, and kick him out of the vestry, and the Baron also, " or bad will come of it."

Mr Herschell was not kicked out of the vestry, nor the Baron upset, and they were two of the first victims of the insurrection.

Again, the Commissioners distinctly record their opinion, " Mr. Gordon might know well the distinction " between a rebellion and a demonstration of it. He might be able to trust himself to go as far as he " could with safety, and no further. But that would not be so easy to his ignorant and fanatical followers. " They would find it difficult to restrain themselves from rebellion when making a demonstration of it."

" If a man like Paul Bogle was in the habit of hearing such expressions as those contained in " Gordon's letters, as that the reign of the oppressors would be short, and that the Lord was about to " destroy them, it would not take much to convince him that he might be the appointed instrument in " the Lord's hand for effecting that end; and it is clear that this was Bogle's belief, as we find that after " the part he had taken in the massacre at Morant Bay he in his chapel at Stony Gut returned thanks " to God that he had gone to do that work, and that God had prospered him in his work."

" It is clear too, that the conduct of Gordon had been such as to convince both friends and enemies " of his being a party to the rising."

" We learn from Mr. Gordon himself that in Kingston, where he carried on his business, this was " the general belief as soon as the news of the outbreak was received."

" But it was fully believed also by those engaged in the outbreak. Bogle did not hesitate to speak " of himself as acting in concert with him."

" When Dr. Major was dragged out of his hiding place on the night of the 11th October he saved " himself by explaining that Mr. Gordon would not wish to have him injured; and when Mr. Jackson " made a similar appeal for his own life to the murderers of Mr. Hire, it appears to have been equally " successful."

" The effect which was likely to follow the meetings which took place during the spring and summer " of 1865, in some of which Mr. Gordon took a part, was foreseen by one of his most ardent supporters, " who, writing to a common friend on the subject of an article he had inserted in a newspaper respecting " the Vere meeting, used these words; 'All I desire is to shield you and them from the charge of " ' anarchy and tumult, which in a short time must follow these powerful demonstrations.' "

Again, the Commissioners report, " It appears exceedingly probable that Mr. Gordon by his words " and writings produced a material effect on the minds of Bogle and his followers, and did much to " produce that state of excitement and discontent in different parts of the Island which rendered the " spread of the insurrection exceedingly probable."

The British public may judge from these extracts from the Report of the Royal Commissioners, how far Gordon was morally guilty of causing the rebellion, and therefore justly punished, whatever may be the doubts entertained as to the proof of his complicity having been sufficient in a strictly legal point of view to satisfy a court of law; but they can never know the full weight and pressure of the circumstances which made it necessary, in order to save the Colony from the general massacre and pillage which further risings would have occasioned, to act promptly and decisively upon proof only of his moral guilt. (And this, be it remembered, is all that is required before a court-martial under martial law.)

I am not a lawyer, but I understand there are legal gentlemen, of high ability, who dissent entirely from the opinion expressed by the Royal Commissioners, that there was not a sufficient proof (that is such as would have been received in a court of law) of Gordon's complicity in the outbreak at Morant Bay, and who consider that the evidence adduced before the court-martial, taken in connexion with concurrent circumstances, would have been both legally admissible in a civil court, and sufficient to satisfy a civil jury of his guilt.

Be this as it may, I had myself no doubt whatever as to Gordon's having occasioned the rebellion, or of the danger to the Colony if his case was not promptly and summarily dealt with. Under such circumstances it was impossible to hesitate as to the course which I considered my duty to the Crown and to the Colony made it imperative on me to take.

And now, gentlemen, I come to the hardest part of my task, that of saying farewell to those who have been kind to me, who supported me in the difficulties and dangers through which the Colony has so recently passed, and who now sympathise with me under the obloquy and misrepresentations to which I am subjected.

I have lived amongst you for nearly four years and a half, during which, as you well know, I have had more than the usual share of hard work and political strife.

You will, I am sure, do me the justice to believe that in these as in all other matters I have been actuated by the single desire to do what I conscientiously believed to be my duty.

I have necessarily sometimes had to say or to do hard things, but you will, I know, at least acquit me of mixing up any personal feelings with my public actions.

And in taking leave of you, I would only add that as I bear no ill will to any individual, I trust that none is borne towards myself; but that, when I am gone from amongst you, all will unite in believing that I wished well to the Colony and to yourselves, and that I did my best to serve you.

I now retire into private life, dismissed from the public service, after nearly a lifetime spent in it; but I have at least the consolation of feeling that there has been nothing in my conduct to merit it, nothing to occasion self-reproach, nothing to regret.

On the contrary, I carry with me in my retirement the proud consciousness that at all times and under all circumstances I have endeavoured to the best of my ability to do my duty as a servant of the Crown, faithfully, fearlessly, and irrespective of personal considerations.

With such convictions, deeply as my removal from the public service must necessarily affect my future, and the interests of those most dear to me, I can submit to the forfeiture of position, to the sacrifice of 25 years' career in the public service, or to any personal indignity entailed, counting my individual losses as utterly insignificant, when so largely counterbalanced by the undeniable fact that the very acts which have led to my dismissal have saved a noble Colony from anarchy and ruin.

Your generous and valued testimony to the integrity of my conduct in this my last and most important government will ever be most highly cherished by me, and will be handed down to my children and their children as an encouragement and a stimulus to them to do their duty also, under whatever circumstances of trial they may at any time be placed in.

Again, gentlemen, I thank you in Mrs. Eyre's name and in my own for your warm-hearted sympathy, and for your good wishes towards ourselves and our children.

We shall always remember most gratefully your great kindness and good feeling.

Our best wishes and our fervent prayers for your individual and collective interests and welfare will still be with you; and we earnestly trust that the change recently made in the Government of the country (and which I shall ever regard as a proud monument of my administration amongst you) will, when time has permitted its development, and matured that re-organisation which is essential, lead to a renewed confidence in Jamaica at home, and to a progress and prosperity within the Colony itself, that must eventually largely promote its material interests, and add to the comfort and happiness of all within it.

Kingston, July 23, 1866. (Signed) E. EYRE.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

Despatch from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON to Governor Sir J. PETER GRANT, K.C.B.

(No. 25.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 26, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Sir Henry Storks's Despatch No. 130,* of the 20th of June, enclosing a memorial to Earl Russell from the Rev. Walter Dendy, the Rev. John E. Henderson, the Rev. Edward Hewett, and the Rev. James Reid, Baptist Missionaries.

* Page 49.

Parliament has been put in possession of Despatches by your predecessor expressing a high sense of the services rendered to Jamaica by the great majority of the Baptist missionaries employed there, as well as a condemnation of the conduct of some of those missionaries. With those Despatches the counter statements of the Baptist missionaries have also been presented to Parliament, and thus all persons who take an interest in the question will have the materials for arriving at a conclusion.

I can only say that I gladly accept the assurances by the memorialists of their loyalty, and trust that for the future Her Majesty's Government may rely on their co-operation, both as regards the religious, moral, and social training of their flocks, and by the example which they have it in their power to give to the people of respect for the institutions of the country, and of cheerful and willing obedience to all constituted authority.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B. (Signed) CARNARVON.
&c. &c. &c.

Part II.

DESPATCHES RELATING TO DISTURBANCES.

Despatches from the Governor.

JAMAICA.

No. 1.

No. 1.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 3.) King's House, January 16, 1866.
(Received Feb. 12, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to transmit a letter I have been requested to forward you from a Rev. Mr. East, of Trelawney.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

To the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

SIR,

As one of the subscribers to an address to his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, Governor of Jamaica, from the inhabitants of the parish of Trelawny, which his Excellency declares it to be his intention to transmit to Her Majesty's Government in defence of his administration, I crave permission to offer a few words of explanation. I do so because in his reply to the address, his Excellency evidently attaches a breadth of meaning to it which, I know, some who signed it never intended. In affixing my own signature I only had in view what his Excellency himself officially announced when he stated that the rebellion was crushed. The subsequent acts of the executive I have most strongly deprecated.

1. I have deprecated the arrest of persons by military force and without reference to the ordinary civil tribunals, residing beyond the precincts of the districts in which martial law had been proclaimed, and especially their transportation to the localities in which martial law was in force, some of whom were brought to trial and executed by sentence of courts-martial.

2. I have deprecated the indiscriminate slaughter of Her Majesty's subjects in the districts in which martial law was in force, after it was declared that the rebellion was crushed.

3. I have deprecated the wholesale executions of persons convicted by courts-martial, when milder measures might have served the ends of justice, and have been of equal force in the preservation of the order and the safety of the Colony.

4. I have deprecated the parading of the Maroons through the Island, as fraught with danger to the future quiet of the community.

5. I have deprecated as inaccurate official representations to the effect that a spirit of sedition and treason were wide-spread in almost every district.

6. And I also deprecate several of the recent measures submitted by the Government, as adverse to the British Constitution, and uncalled for by any exigencies of the times.

7. As the Trelawny address will come under the notice of Her Majesty's Government, it is due in all honesty to my convictions to offer these explanations, which I do with the most profound respect.

I have, &c.

Calabar Institution, D. J. EAST.
Rio Bueno P. O. Jamaica,
January 5, 1866.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 4.) King's House, January 19, 1866.
(Received, Feb. 12, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you that on my assuming the government of Jamaica, I consulted my Executive Committee and the Attorney General as to the powers the Royal Commissioners would possess to compel the attendance of witnesses

and to examine such witnesses on oath. I found that no legal means existed, and that the only manner in which the necessary power could be obtained was by an Act of the Local Legislature. I therefore decided on calling together the Legislature without delay.

2. They assembled in extraordinary session on Wednesday the 17th instant.

3. I have the honor to transmit, for your information, a copy of the speech I delivered on the occasion, and also a copy of the Bill I submitted to the Legislature to confer the necessary statutory powers on the Royal Commissioners.

4. After the Legislative Council and House of Assembly had retired, the former adjourned until the morrow. The House of Assembly proceeded at once to a discussion on the address in reply to my speech. An amendment was moved to the effect of naming a committee to prepare an address instead of proceeding with the address at once. The amendment was lost on a division, and the House then divided on the address, which was carried by a majority of 16 to 8. I enclose a copy of the address, which has been presented to me, and also of my answer to it.

5. The Legislative Council also presented me an address, of which I enclose a copy, with my reply.

6. Last night (18th), having been informed by the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly that they had passed the Bill sent down to them, and had concluded all the business before them, I proceeded to the Chamber of the Legislative Council, and prorogued the General Assembly until the 20th of February next. I transmit a copy of the speech I made on the occasion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
MR. SPEAKER AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

I HAVE requested your attendance here to-day in an extraordinary session, and, I am afraid, at some inconvenience to yourselves, for the purpose of submitting to you a bill to provide certain statutory powers which will enable Royal Commissioners to compel the attendance of witnesses, and to examine them on oath under a Royal Commission about to be issued by Her Majesty the Queen for an inquiry into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the late disturbances in the Island, and with respect to the measures adopted for the suppression of the same.

The bill will be placed before you without delay, and I confidently trust in your wisdom and prudence to give the Royal Commissioners such powers as will facilitate the inquiry ordered by Her Majesty.

Jamaica "S.S."

To his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c. &c. &c.

The humble Address of the Legislative Council.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE Legislative Council of Jamaica thank your Excellency for the speech with which you have been pleased to open the session.

They also beg to assure your Excellency of their readiness to co-operate with the other branches of the Legislature in passing an enactment for facilitating and giving full effect in this Island to the Royal Commission of Inquiry about to be issued by Her Majesty the Queen; and such a Commission having been decided on, the Legislative Council congratulate themselves and the country on so distinguished an officer as your Excellency being placed at its head.

Jamaica "S S."

To his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, Knight Grand Cross of the most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Commander of the Military Division of the same most Honorable Order, Knight Grand Cross of the most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, a Lieutenant-General in Her Majesty's Army, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies, and Commander of Her Majesty's troops serving within the same, Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Island of Jamaica and the Territories depending thereon, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our Colony of British Honduras, Chancellor of our said Island of Jamaica, and Vice-Admiral of the same, and Commander of Her Majesty's Troops serving within the same.

The humble Address of the Assembly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE thank your Excellency for your speech at the opening of the present session.

It is our anxious desire that the most searching inquiry should be instituted into the origin, nature, and circumstances of the late disturbances in this Island, and with respect to the measures adopted

JAMAICA.

for the suppression of the same; and it is gratifying to us to find that Her Majesty has selected so able an administrator as your Excellency to preside over the Commission appointed for that purpose.

We shall be prepared to aid your Excellency in the carrying out of the object contemplated, and to that end will give the Commission such statutory powers as appear necessary to facilitate and render efficient this important inquiry.

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

I THANK you for your address, and for the assurance it contains that you will afford me your co-operation in carrying out the inquiry to be instituted under the powers of the Royal Commission.

I thank you also for the terms in which are pleased to allude to myself. I shall always endeavour to advance the interests and welfare of Jamaica.

MR. SPEAKER AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

I THANK you for your address, and for the assurance it contains that you are prepared to aid me in carrying out the inquiry about to commence under the Royal Commission by giving the statutory powers necessary to facilitate the important object contemplated.

I am very sensible of the allusion which you make to myself. The House of Assembly may be assured that all my energies will be devoted to promote the welfare and prosperity of Jamaica.

Encl. 2 in No. 2.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

A Bill to authorize Her Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry into the late Disturbances in this Island, and the Measures adopted for the Suppression of the same, to enforce the Attendance of Witnesses, and to examine Witnesses upon Oath.

WHEREAS the origin, nature, and circumstances of the late disturbances in this Island, and the measures adopted for the suppression of the same, are about to be investigated by a Royal Commission for that purpose: And whereas, for the effectual prosecution of such inquiry, it is expedient that Her Majesty's Commissioner or Commissioners of such inquiry should examine witnesses upon oath, and enforce the attendance of necessary witnesses: Be it and it is hereby enacted by the Governor, Legislative Council, and Assembly of Jamaica:

First, that any Commissioner appointed or to be appointed by Her Majesty for the purposes aforesaid shall have power to summon and to enforce the attendance of any witness whom he may deem necessary for such inquiry, and to examine him upon oath before such Commissioner or Board of Commissioners as Her Majesty to that end may appoint or direct.

Second, that any witness knowingly or wilfully giving false evidence upon oath on such inquiry shall be deemed for all purposes to be guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury, and be liable to the penalties thereof.

Third, that no privilege or exemption from giving evidence on the ground of official confidence shall preclude or prevent Her Majesty's Commissioner or Board of Commissioners from insisting on exacting the evidence of any witness.

Fourth, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Commissioner or Board of Commissioners to direct payment to any witness of his reasonable travelling and other expenses from the Island Treasury, unless the same shall have been provided for out of the Treasury of the United Kingdom.

Encl. 3 in No. 2.

Enclosure 3 in No. 2.

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
MR. SPEAKER AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

I THANK you in the Queen's name for the promptness with which you have conferred on the Royal Commission appointed by Her Majesty the necessary statutory powers to enable them to conduct satisfactorily the important inquiry confided to them.

In relieving you from further attendance on your Parliamentary duties, I venture to express a hope that on your return to your homes you will endeavour to calm any excitement which may prevail, and that you will impress on all classes of Her Majesty's subjects the importance of obedience to the laws, and of the pursuit of steady industry.

I now prorogue this General Assembly, in Her Majesty's name, to Tuesday, the 20th day of February 1866.

No. 3.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 5.) Kings House, January 20, 1866.

(Received Feb. 12, 1866.)

SIR,

(Answered, No. 79, Feb. 17, 1866, page 102.)

IN the Act entitled "A Bill to authorize Her Majesty's Commissioners of Inquiry to enforce the Attendance of Witnesses," &c., which passed the Legislature of Jamaica in

the extraordinary session just concluded, mention is made of the expenses of witnesses who may be summoned to give evidence before the Royal Commission.

2. When this Bill was under discussion in the House of Assembly the question of these expenses was alluded to by some of the members, and my Executive Committee explained to the House that though they were unable to state whether these expenses would be chargeable against the Colonial Treasury, or be found from Imperial funds, they would mention the subject to me, and request that I would submit it to you for your consideration and decision.

3. It will be the duty of the Royal Commissioners to reduce the expenses of the Commission as much as possible, and as regards witnesses no more will be summoned at one time than the Commission is prepared to hear. But under any circumstances the expense of bringing witnesses from a distance, and of paying them such reasonable expenses as the law permits, will be considerable; and from the present financial condition of this Island the Treasury can with difficulty meet its ordinary expenditure, and is quite unprepared to incur any other extra charge upon it.

4. Indeed, one of the first duties of the Governor of Jamaica under any new form of Government which may be decided on by Her Majesty's Government will be to closely examine the public expenditure, and readjust the whole financial administration of the Colony. Under the circumstances, I trust that Her Majesty's Government will allow the expenses incurred on behalf of witnesses to be charged in the general account of the Royal Commissioners, and be paid from Imperial funds.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 4.

No. 4.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 8.) King's House, January 22, 1866.

Sir, (Received, February 12, 1866.)

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch* of the 1st instant, transmitting a Commission under the Royal Sign Manual appointing the Royal Commissioners for inquiring respecting the recent disturbances in this Island, and the measures taken for their suppression:

*Vide Papers presented February 1866 on Jamaica disturbances, Part I. page 261.

Also a Commission appointing Mr. C. S. Roundell to be the Secretary to the Commissioners.

Mr. Russell Gurney and Mr. J. B. Maule arrived on Saturday last, the 20th instant, and the Royal Commissioners will commence the important inquiry confided to them without delay.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 5.

No. 5.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

King's House, January 24, 1866.

Sir, (Received, February 13, 1866.)

I have the honor to inform you that the Royal Commission of Inquiry was opened at Spanish Town yesterday with the usual forms.

I beg to transmit, for your information, a copy, as per margin, of a notification relative to the Commission which I read publicly upon declaring the Commission, opened.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure in No. 5.

Encl. in No. 5.

I declare the Commission now open. The Royal Commissioners, in obedience to Her Majesty's commands, are anxious to obtain the fullest information touching the origin, nature, and circumstances of the late disturbances, and the means adopted in the course of their suppression. With this view they will summon such witnesses as appear to them likely to afford information on these points, and they will be glad to receive information from others as to any persons who will be able to throw light on these transactions.

In answer to letters which have been addressed to the Commissioners as to the course to be pursued it may be well to state that the inquiry will be an open one, and that if any evidence should be given which tends to incriminate any individual that person will be allowed to test the accuracy of such evidence, and to tender counter evidence in reply. The better course for any one to adopt who thinks that he can assist the Commissioners in the obtaining information will be to address the Secretary, stating in full the name and address of the witness who can give such information, and the nature of the evidence he would be able to give.

With respect to the applications which have been made by gentlemen connected with the public press, the Commissioners are not able to give them any specific directions. The publication or non-publication of details must be left to the discretion of the gentlemen engaged. The Commissioners would, however, suggest that supposing evidence to be given affecting individuals, it may be that justice may require that the publication of such evidence should be suspended until the individual has himself had the opportunity of being heard.

As it appears from the Commission which has been read that the Commissioners are directed to conform to such instructions as may be given by the Secretary of State, it is necessary only to add that the one instruction which they have received is, that the inquiry should be "full, searching, and impartial."

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 19.) King's House, February 5, 1866.
(Received, March 2, 1866.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 97, March 13, 1866, page 102.)

CONSIDERABLE alarm has been experienced by the white and coloured population in the different parishes of this Island, in consequence of the threatening language of the negroes. Amongst the latter also various rumours of the most absurd description, but at the same time calculated to excite and unsettle an ignorant and impressionable population, have been circulated, as to the temporary retirement of Mr. Eyre, and as to the consequences of my mission to Jamaica, and of the appointment of the Royal Commission.

2. I have been disposed to treat the apprehensions of the one party, and the exaggerated credulity of the other, with great reserve and forbearance, because I hoped that the excitement and alarm would subside. But finding that the uneasiness and excitement still prevailed, and having received sworn informations from various quarters as to the truth of the reports which reached me, I published a notification, which has been widely circulated in this Island. A copy is transmitted for your information.

3. This notification has produced a good effect, and I do not apprehend any disturbance of the public security, at any rate for the present.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

NOTIFICATION.

IT having come to the knowledge of the Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief that threatening language is made use of in many parts of the country, tending to create alarm for personal safety and for the security of property, and it being also well known that certain reports are current, tending to mislead the labouring classes, and to create irritation and bad feeling amongst Her Majesty's subjects, his Excellency strongly reprobates the use of such threatening language, and the circulation of such reports.

His Excellency's duty is to uphold and maintain the law, and to protect all Her Majesty's subjects in the pursuit of their lawful calling, and his Excellency declares that all the powers placed in his hands by Her Majesty will be freely used for these purposes.

The Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, therefore, invites all persons to assist his Excellency in allaying the irritation and bad feeling which exist, and in maintaining the law and public security. JAMAICA.

By his Excellency's command,
EDWARD JORDON, Gov. Sec.

No. 7. No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 20.) King's House, February 5, 1866.
(Received, March 2, 1866.)
Answered, No. 127, April 13, 1866, page 102.)

SIR,

WITH reference to your Despatch No. 14*, of the 1st January, on the subject of the troops sent to Jamaica to aid in the suppression of the disturbances, I have the honor to report that I shall endeavour to send them back to Barbadoes and Bahamas as soon as circumstances will permit. But looking to the agitation and bad feeling which prevail in many parts of this Island, I am of opinion that it would be imprudent to part with these troops until they can be replaced by others, or until the excitement produced by the late disturbances and by the appointment of the Royal Commission of Inquiry, has subsided.

*Vide Papers presented Feb. 1866, Jamaica Disturbances Part I. Page 259.

2. As to the future force to be maintanied in this Colony, I would recommend that for some time one complete regiment of the line and one complete regiment of black troops should form the ordinary garrison. These regiments should not be called on to find any detachments to the other West India Islands, but should be kept available fo any services which may be required of them in this Colony.

3. At present a large naval force assists in maintaining tranquillity, and in allaying the fears of the white population, which is scattered in distant and isolated positions all over the Island. But so large a proportion of the naval force destined for the North American and West India command cannot always be stationed in these waters, and some addition to the ordinary military force must be made when the ships are moved to other stations.

I have, &c.
The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 8. No. 8.

COPY of DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 30.) King's House, February 19, 1866.
(Received March 16, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you, that I have availed myself of H.M.S. "Constance," about to proceed from Jamaica to Barbados, to send back the troops as per margin who were despatched to this Island to assist in the suppression of the late disturbances.

Royal Artillery.

C.	S.	S.	R. & F.		Total.
1	1	1	43	=	45.

3rd. Foot.—2 Companies.

C.	S.	S.	Drs.	R. & F.		Total.
1	5	6	2	137	=	145.

The troops will embark on or about the 26th instant, and will sail immediately for their destination.

I have, &c.
The Right. Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 9. No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 47.) King's House, March 8, 1866.
(Received, March 31, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 77,* of the 16th ult., transmitting the copy of an Address presented to you by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. *Page 101.

JAMAICA.

In reply to the statements made in that Address, I have to inform you that Captain Hunt is not my military secretary, and never has been.

A paragraph appeared in a local paper when I first arrived, to the effect that I had made such an appointment; but the statement was denied, by my authority, in the next publication. Neither have I, nor the members of my staff, had any communication with Captain Hunt whatever.

Mr. Lynch, a very able and active solicitor of Spanish Town, was appointed solicitor to the Royal Commission when the Royal Commissioners commenced their inquiry; but the day after his appointment, a statement appearing in a local paper that Mr. Lynch was nearly connected with Mr. Ramsay, he was at once informed that the Royal Commissioners did not consider it desirable, under the circumstances, to avail themselves of his services.

It was subsequently discovered by the Royal Commissioners that Mr. Lynch was not the brother-in-law of Mr. Ramsay, but the brother of the brother-in-law; and as it was most important to secure his assistance, an offer was made to him to resume his duties as solicitor, but with the understanding that he was not to be engaged in any matter affecting Mr. Ramsay, and that he was to be placed under the sole control of the Secretary of the Royal Commission.

Mr. Lynch declined, and he is therefore not the solicitor of the Royal Commission.

With reference to the Executive Committee, I have only to observe that the Executive Committee do not possess any absolute authority whatever, and have no funds at their disposal. They assist in carrying on the details of the administration under my sole authority and responsibility.

I request that the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society may be informed that there is no combination existing in Jamaica which can defeat the objects of the Commission, or deprive it of that character of impartiality which Her Majesty's Government desire it should possess.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 10.

No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 62.) King's House, March 16, 1866.
(Received, April 12, 1866.)

SIR, (Answered, No. 135, April 26, 1866, p. 103.)

ABOUT five miles from Spanish Town is situated a property called "Hartlands." This estate has been for many years inhabited by a lawless population, and has deservedly acquired a very bad reputation.

2. In old times runaway slaves took refuge there; and I have been informed that the Government was obliged to employ a large force, for an extended period, in its endeavour to reduce the inhabitants to order and something like obedience to the laws.

3. On this land many persons are located whose titles to their holdings are disputed, and they are considered to be squatters.

4. On the 12th instant the provost marshal's deputy, with a surveyor and the inspector of police, proceeded to this spot, having for their object the execution of a writ of "habere facias possessionem," obtained by an order from the Supreme Court.

5. On arrival at the ground, the provost marshal's deputy and the surveyor were resisted in the execution of the process of law, and in carrying into effect the order of the Judge.

6. I transmit for your information a copy of the letter of the provost marshal in which he reports the circumstance.

7. On receiving this report I consulted the Executive Committee and the Attorney General, and found that all the proceedings as regarded the provost marshal were legal and regular. I then decided that the law should be carried out, and I sent a message to the people on this estate to come in, and hear my decision for themselves. At the same time, I sent an order to Kingston for a field officer and 100 rank and file to be moved by railroad on the morning of the 14th instant to Spanish Town, to join the detachment stationed here, and with a magistrate and body of police to proceed to Hartlands, and support the proper officer in carrying out the order of the Court.

8. The people of Hartlands replied to my message by saying that they would wait on me the next morning.

9. The troops having arrived, and the men from Hartlands not having made their appearance at the hour indicated, I ordered the magistrate and the troops, consisting of one field officer, six officers, and 150 rank and file, to march to the ground.

10. On their way they met the men coming in to see me, and the troops were halted.

11. On the men appearing at King's House I at once received them, and informed them that I was extremely displeased at what had taken place, and until they atoned for their conduct by showing obedience to the law I could hold no communication with them; that it was my determination to uphold the law by obliging everybody to obey it; and, in case of resistance, that I had ample means at my disposal to enforce obedience. I added, that if after the process required by law had been carried out they had any complaints to make, or desired to offer any statement, I was prepared to consider their petitions, but I would hold no further communication with them. They promised obedience, and declared they would offer no further opposition.

12. I then ordered the magistrate and the troops to proceed to the ground, and I am glad to say that everything passed off quietly.

13. Notices were duly served. The survey commenced, and the Judge's order fully carried out.

14. The Rev. Dr. Philippo, Baptist missionary of this town, waited upon me in the morning, and requested my permission to go amongst these people, and endeavour to convince them of their error, and of the breach of the law they had committed. I accepted Dr. Philippo's offer, and he proceeded to Hartlands, went amongst the people, and contributed a great deal to the satisfactory termination of an embarrassing difficulty, which threatened at one time to produce most disagreeable consequences.

15. I trust that you will approve of the course I pursued on this occasion. I felt that if it were permitted to a lawless mob openly to set the law at defiance, and to disregard the rights of property, most disastrous consequences would be the result.

16. The troops returned to Kingston at 5 p.m., and the survey has since proceeded without interruption and without military assistance.

17. I need not inform you that the question of land tenure in this Colony is in a most unsatisfactory condition; and the Government must endeavour, as soon as time and circumstances will permit, to devise some means for arriving at a complete and satisfactory settlement of it.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Mr. W. A. FEURTADO to the Hon. E. JORDON.

SIR, Spanish Town, March 12, 1866.

I HAVE to request that you will submit to his Excellency the Governor the following statement of facts.

I received a writ of possession to be executed on the lands called "Hart Land," in this parish, which was committed, in the usual way, to Mr. Thomas James Bernal, my deputy for the precinct, to be attended to.

According to the provisions of an Act of the Colonial Legislature of the last Session (29 Vict. c. 18.), a Judge's order was made for the attendance of a surveyor on the execution of the writ of possession, and a certified copy of that order was annexed to the writ.

I have been informed that notices were served on all the persons residing in or near the lands in question, or who were known to have asserted any claim to it; and the person who served the notices accompanied Mr. Bernal in his attempt to execute the writ.

At 10 o'clock this morning Mr. Roger Swire, a sworn surveyor and the Crown surveyor for the county of Middlesex, attended with Mr. Bernal; Mr. Swire to point out the land of which possession was to be delivered, and Mr. Bernal to execute the writ.

Mr. Bernal was furnished with instructions in writing to regulate him in the discharge of his duty.

Mr. Bernal and Mr. Swire have returned, and reported that they were effectually resisted in the execution of the process of the law and the carrying into effect the order of the Judge.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. AUG. O'SULLIVAN, P.M.G.
By W. A. Feurtado, chief clerk,
in Mr. Sullivan's absence.

The Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B.,
Governor's Secretary.

JAMAICA.

No. 11.

No. 11. COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 65.) King's House, March 16, 1866.
(Received, April 12, 1866.)

SIR,

* Page 98.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 66,* of the 8th ultimo, expressing the desire of Her Majesty's Government that I should report upon the Act passed by the Legislature of Jamaica, 29 Vict. cap. 3. "to enable the Governor of "this Island to declare Martial Law over the whole or any portions of the Island, by and "with the advice of the Privy Council."

2. There is no doubt that whilst the Governor of this Island should have the means afforded him of obtaining without delay or difficulty proper advice and assistance before proceeding to proclaim Martial Law, it is at the same time important that every security should be taken that so serious a measure should not be adopted without the due consideration of a qualified and responsible body recognized by statutory authority.

3. If the existing constitution of Jamaica remained in force, I consider that the Privy Council would be the body the best qualified to assist the Governor with their advice. But as the impending constitutional changes will abolish the Privy Council, or suspend their powers until the constitutional system be re-adopted, it would appear desirable that the subject be re-considered, and some other course be resorted to for affording the Governor the advice and the Colony the securities which the circumstances require.

4. As I am not aware at present of the course which Her Majesty's Government will adopt as to the future constitution of Jamaica, I can only suggest that the Executive Council (should such a body be created) would be the best calculated for offering advice to the Governor, and for sharing his responsibilities in proclaiming Martial Law.

5. With reference to the subject generally, I would venture to point out for your consideration the importance of establishing some regulations or rules for the conduct of proceedings in a district where Martial Law is proclaimed.

6. The relative positions of the Governor and of the Officer commanding the troops should be as far as possible accurately defined.

7. The responsibilities and powers attaching to the troops and to the Military Tribunals should be settled by competent authority, and nothing, as far as foresight and experience can suggest, should be left to the doubt and uncertainty, which unwittingly lead public officers into error, and sometimes submit the people to acts of undue severity, and often of questionable legality.

8. In justice to the Executive Government of a colony, to the troops serving there, and to the public, this most important subject should be carefully considered, and if possible the proceedings to be taken under Martial Law should be laid down.

9. As regards the last paragraph of your Despatch, I confidently trust that no occasion will arise which will oblige me to proclaim Martial Law in Jamaica, and Her Majesty's Government may rest assured that nothing but the most urgent and manifest danger to the community will induce me to have recourse to so extreme a measure.

10. Should such a necessity unfortunately arise, your instructions as regards its duration will be scrupulously attended to, but I have every reason to hope that the public tranquillity will not be disturbed, and that order and a ready obedience to the laws will be maintained throughout the Island by the ordinary means at my disposal.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 12.

No. 12. COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 69.) King's House, March 24, 1866.
(Received, April 12, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you that Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope sailed yesterday in his flag ship the "Duncan," for Bermuda.

The naval Commander-in-Chief has made adequate provision for such assistance as may be required from Her Majesty's naval forces for the maintenance of public tranquillity.

Her Majesty's ships stationed at Jamaica are noted in the margin.

Aboukir (Ordinary).
Aurora (Frigate).
Cadmus, 21 guns.
Royalist, 11 guns.
Nimble, Cygnet, Delight, Nettle, } Gun Vessels.

JAMAICA.

I avail myself of this opportunity of expressing to you the grateful sense I entertain of the valuable support and assistance which have been afforded me by the Vice-Admiral since I assumed the Government of Jamaica.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 13.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 71.) King's House, March 24, 1866.
(Received, April 12, 1866.)
(Answered, No. 151, May 15, 1866, p. 103.)

SIR,

WITH reference to your Despatch, No. 70,* of the 15th February, requesting me to report on the circumstances connected with the payment of a sum of 250*l.* 6*s.* into the commissariat chest as the proceeds of sales of property during the late disturbances in this Island.

* Page 99.

2. I have the honor to transmit to you, for your information, copies of a correspondence which has passed between Major-General O'Connor and Colonel Hobbs of the 2nd Battalion, 6th Foot, on the subject.

3. It would appear that Colonel Hobbs considered himself authorized to seize the property of parties said to be "rebels," and to sell such property, and he proposed to apply the proceeds by distribution amongst the troops under his command.

4. Major-General O'Connor transmitted this correspondence on 23rd November last for the consideration and instructions of the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief; and I was ordered by his Royal Highness to institute a military inquiry into the conduct of the 6th Regiment during the late disturbances. On arriving in Jamaica I did not consider it prudent to make this inquiry whilst the Royal Commissioners were pursuing theirs, and I thought that any independent investigation would be attended with inconvenience; I therefore reported to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief the objection I entertained to carrying out his instructions, and his Royal Highness was pleased to approve of the view I took under existing circumstances.

5. Pending instructions the Major-General had ordered the money realized by the sale of the property to be paid into the military chest before I assumed the Government of Jamaica and the command of the troops.

6. These proceedings of Colonel Hobbs have been most improper; and I can only suggest that the money should be placed at the disposal of the Government of Jamaica for distribution amongst such persons as can substantiate their claims to compensation for losses or for property seized in the district where these transactions took place, and on producing proof that they were not engaged in the disturbances.

7. I have communicated these papers to the Royal Commissioners, and many of the cases referred to in them have come under review in the course of the inquiry.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 13.

Encl. in No. 13.

Major General O'CONNOR to the MILITARY SECRETARY.

SIR, Jamaica, November 23, 1865.

SEVERAL individuals having complained to me, and made affidavits that their horses, mules, donkeys, and other chattels, had been taken away by the soldiers 2nd Battalion, 6th Royal Regiment, under the command of Col. Hobbs, 2/6th Regiment, while engaged in suppressing the late rebellion in St.-Thomas-in-the-East,—

I investigated the matter; and the correspondence which has ensued I now do myself the honor to enclose for the consideration of H.R.H. the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,
Major General.

The Military Secretary, &c. &c. &c.,
Horse Guards.

Jamaica.

Major General O'Connor to Colonel Hobbs.

Jamaica Command, Head Quarter House,
Sir, November 6, 1865.

Mr. David Abarenga of Monklands, and other parties, having complained that the soldiers of the 2/6 Royals under your command, while employed in the field, plundered stores, and seized upon clothing, books, mules, and cattle, taking them away, and also that an auction was held at Newcastle of the plundered property, the sale of which realized a sum of 150*l.* to 170*l.* and upwards,—

I have the honor to request you will immediately afford me a full explanation of the foregoing accusation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. Smythe O'Connor,
Major General.

Colonel Hobbs, 2/6 Royal Regiment,
Newcastle.

Captured Stock.

Colonel Hobbs to Major-General O'Connor, C.B.

Sir, Newcastle, Jamaica, November 9, 1865.

In reply to your letter of the 6th, which I found on my return here last night, I have the honor to state:—1st, that Mr. David Alvaranga, if at present at large, is, I believe, a rebel, and that his statement is untrue. It was in this very man's house that the goods stolen from Mr. Paterson's store were found; that his dwelling house stands within a few yards of the chapel where Paul Bogle swore in his men in "Mount Lebanus;" that his house was found by the troops broken into and gutted; and that I saw with my own eyes piles of that seditious paper "The Watchman" in it, and abundant proof of his being a rebel, and trust he may be sent here for trial.

With regard to the second part of the letter regarding captured animals, &c., I can give the most ample and fullest explanation.

It is quite true that the sum realized by the sale of these animals exceeds 170*l.*, although I am unable at present to furnish a correct account until all the money has been collected, and sundry claims settled.

During our several excursions into rebel fastnesses from day to day, sundry ponies, donkeys, and a very few mules, were captured, as reported by me in my several despatches, from time to time. On some of these I mounted a few men; numbers of them, however, broke or strayed away, many were let loose in the night by special constables and others, and some few claimed by people said to be loyal. The residue, amounting to 39, were finally brought to Newcastle, having previously allowed each officer with me to select one animal, and Captain Field two.

On my return from Monklands, one of the first things I did was to call upon the Military Secretary in his office, and request him to find out for me without delay your wishes regarding these prizes, as there was no means of keeping them at Newcastle, three having died, many dying and straying away. I received no official answer from Capt. Stirke, but a private intimation to dispose of them; accordingly I allowed six days to elapse in order to give any loyal subject an opportunity of claiming their stock, being most anxious to be on the safe side. I also spoke to Col. Elkington, the D.A. Genl., on the matter, and asked whether I should write for instruction, or dispose of them for the benefit of the men. He advised the latter course, and gave me to understand that you did not wish the matter referred; and on the 2d November, the unclaimed animals were sold, "not" by auction, but privately by Capt. Harmond and Lieut. Hall (6th); Mr. Lazarus and the sergeants of the regiment being the chief purchasers. The price of all that have been paid for is in the Paymaster's hands. It is my intention, unless I receive orders to the contrary, to allow this money to remain one month untouched, in order to defray all claims that may come in, and to divide the residue between the non-commissioned officers and men, as may be decided upon by a committee of the officers who accompanied me.

I have, &c.
J. Francis Hobbs,
Colonel and Lieut.-Col.
Commanding 6th Royal Regiment.

To Major-General O'Connor, C.B.,
commanding the troops, Jamaica.

Major-General O'Connor to Colonel Hobbs.

Jamaica Command.

Sir, Head Quarters, November 13, 1866.

After a careful perusal and grave consideration of your letter of the 9th instant, purporting to give "the most ample and fullest explanation regarding captured animals and other matters contained in my communication to you on the 6th instant," I have now the honor to convey, for your information and guidance, my opinion as follows:—

I cannot admit, on your bare assertion, that Mr. Abarenga, the claimant of a mule and other property plundered from his premises, if at present at large, is a "rebel."

Mr. Abarenga has been and is in constant communication with the Custos of Kingston, who gave me a very good character of him; and three or four days ago Mr. Abarenga obtained a pass for one of his servants to proceed to Monklands to identify a rebel.

You had no authority to have a "sale" of the several animals collected by your division when on active service without previous reference to me, and obtaining my sanction as the Major-General commanding.

In one of your despatches you mentioned something about mounting your officers on horses, but I cannot find a report of the residue, 39, finally brought to Newcastle.

An official application ought to have been addressed by you to me, and not a mere verbal message to Captain Stirke, the Acting Military Secretary, who had no authority to give you any instructions in the matter; and the six days you allowed to elapse afforded ample time to seek for and receive my official reply.

Your intention to allow the money received for the sale of the captured animals, exceeding 170*l.*, to remain one month untouched, in order to defray all claims that may come in, and to divide the residue between the non-commissioned officers and men, as may be decided upon by a committee of the officers who accompanied you, is assuming a power that I, as Major General Commanding do not possess, and contrary to the rules of the civil and military service.

The proceeds on the sale of captured property clearly accounted for must be paid into the military chest until orders are received from the Secretary of State for War for its disposal, and a Bill passed by the legislature this session provides that all forfeitable property, real and personal, of persons adjudged guilty of treason or felony should be placed at the disposal, not of you or any other private individual, but of the Crown.

I have, therefore, to request you will be good enough to furnish me with a list of the thirty-nine animals, ponies, donkeys, mules, brought to Newcastle, and sold by Captain Harmond and Lieut. Hall, 6th Regiment, to Mr. Lazarus and the sergeants of the regiment, with an account of the sale of each animal.

I cannot recognise your right to allow each officer to select one animal and Capt. Field two, from property clearly belonging to the Crown. Therefore, after defraying all claims that may come in, and furnishing me with a list, you will cause to have paid into the military chest the balance realized by sale of the forfeited property.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. SMYTHE O'CONNOR,
Major General.

CAPTURED STOCK.

Colonel HOBBS to Major-General O'CONNOR.

SIR, New Castle, Jamaica, November 16, 1865.

I HAVE the honor to state, in reply to your letter of the 13th instant, that prior to the receipt of your letter I had directed the Paymaster to lodge the sum of 200*l.* in the Colonial Bank, to the credit of the Crown; your former letter seeming to cast a doubt upon the powers I believed I possessed under martial law; from a careful perusal of your letter I am of opinion that my former letter was misunderstood, as the whole of the proceedings of sale, and distribution of money, &c., was as a matter of course, pending your approval, but the time had not come for writing about the distribution of the money to the soldiers to replace them lost clothing, as it was not at the time collected. My application to the Assistant Military Secretary was as official as it was possible to be at that time. I called at his office, and requested him to ask you officially what course I was to adopt, adding that I had not time to write. He made a memo. of it, and the following day wrote me a letter, marked "Private" inside, in an official cover, and purporting to contain your instructions (copy enclosed). It speaks for itself. The Deputy Adjutant-General told me in the most distinct language not to write to you, as you did not want to be written to about it, or words to that effect. The officers gardens and the cantonment generally were being destroyed by these animals. I had no possible interest in either keeping them or parting with them; they were dying from starvation. The officers only retain the use of one* animal each, in like manner pending your approval; and I now request instructions as to their disposal, as well as three others, two of which tired on the way, and have since been brought here, having been sent in by Mr. Josephs, which belonged to dead rebels, and one given by me to a native boy named Anderson, as a reward for his extraordinary exertions and invaluable services in pointing out rebels, and acting as an invaluable guide in St. Thomas-in-the-East, having had no money to reward him with. This boy I mentioned in my despatches before, and I trust you will endeavour to get him suitably rewarded.

I have acted in this matter with the full concurrence of the officers of the regiment, and to the best of my judgment, and can only say that the responsibility of the sale of the animals rests on Captain Stirke. As regards Mr. Alvaranga, a Baptist schoolmaster, I never saw him; he had fled from his house. I can only refer to my former letter, and, in proof of my opinion, beg to enclose the statement of others. The money is all clearly accounted for, and a list of animals, &c. are enclosed.

During martial law I considered that all other laws are suspended, and that I, as an officer commanding a division in the field, had a perfect right to order these animals found on rebels property to be shot. As, however, I appear to have incurred your displeasure by capturing the animals, and as a most important point of law is involved, I now respectfully request that copies of the whole of the correspondence in this case may be referred to the Judge Advocate-General and the Attorney-General in Jamaica, for their opinion on the following points:—

1st, What are the powers of a colonel of division under martial law?

2nd, Can a commander order the destruction of rebel stock?

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* Captain Field did not claim the use of a baggage animal for his company.

3rd, If he can order their destruction, can he take them alive and dispose of them for the use of the troops, either to be used as food or beasts of burden, or, if unable to feed them, convert them into money?

Never having before been engaged in similar service, I find it exceedingly difficult to know what my position was and is; my only wish, in this as in all other cases, is to do what is right.

I have, &c.

Major-General O'Connor,
Commanding Forces,
Jamaica.

(Signed) J. Francis Hobbs,
Colonel and Lieut.-Colonel,
Commanding 2nd Batt., 6th Royal Regiment.

Colonel Nelson to Colonel Hobbs.

Deputy Adjutant-General's Office, Kingston,
November 21, 1865.

Sir,

Having had the honor to submit to the Major-General Commanding your letter of the 16th instant, with correspondence attached thereto, subject per margin:—

Captured stock.

I have it in command to observe that, with respect to your view of your letter, 9th instant, being misunderstood, on careful reperusal of the following paragraph, "It is my intention, unless I receive "orders to the contrary, to allow this money to remain one month untouched, in order to defray all "claims that may come in, and to divide the residue between the non-commissioned officers and men "as it may be decided upon by a committee of the officers who accompanied me;"—

It is clearly evident that you quite ignored the Major-General's authority at the outset, for the first intimation received by him was that a sale had actually taken place. Thus your supposition of being misunderstood cannot be admitted.

With respect to your considering the note of the Acting-Assistant Military Secretary as authorizing your proceedings, I am to acquaint you that private notes cannot be recognized as public documents, except under very peculiar circumstances; and such did not exist in the case under discussion. The same remarks refer to the Deputy-Adjutant-General, and communications cannot always be depended upon.

All horses selected under your sanction not already sold, to be disposed of for their full value, and the proceeds paid into the military chest. Mr. Josephs and Boy Anderson are included, and must pay for or deliver up the animals.

With respect to your having acted in the matter with the full concurrence of the officers of the regiment, it is to be regretted you did not seek the views of the legitimate authority,—the Major-General commanding,—and not consult junior officers under your command, as was done.

The Major-General is quite prepared to accord you all credit for having acted for the best, but he cannot comprehend that the responsibility of the sale rests upon Captain Stirke, who was constantly employed on staff duty at Kingston.

The question of Mr. Abarenga being a rebel or not, and the several documents from non-commissioned officers and privates of the regiment under your command, is not the question; it is, that the property, furniture, clothes, boots, &c., were taken by the soldiers under your command, and portions conveyed to New Castle; and Mr. Abarenga asserts some of his property is now at the cantonment.

I am to refer you to par. 62, page 287, Queen's Regulations as bearing on the above.

You are correct in your assumption of martial law overriding all other laws; but it was the "will" of the Major-General, and not your own, which should have been acted on. You had not the power or rather the authority to order animals, even if the property of rebels, which merged into the property of the Crown, to be preserved for distribution without authority from home. On this head the opinion of the Major-General was conveyed to you in a letter of 13th Nov., since which date the enclosed Bill to provide for forfeiture of estates, &c., of persons guilty of treason or felony in the late rebellion, has been passed, fully bearing out the Major-General's opinion.

As regards your desire of the opinion of the Judge Advocate General and the Attorney General, Jamaica, on the three points named in your letter under reply, I am commanded to observe:—

1st, That you were in command of a detachment of your regiment without other troops, for argument sake, admitting you had command of a division.

The power of a Colonel commanding a division to carry out the orders of his superior officers, and to rigidly observe the instructions laid down in Queen's regulations and other orders of the army.

2nd, A commander cannot order the destruction of rebel property, which becomes the property forfeited to the Crown.

3rd, Answered in part by No. 2. If driven to necessity in food, and the troops suffer from famine be proved, this may justify rebel stock being used. If fed and disposed of, proceeds must be lodged in the military chest for the decision of the Crown.

Not questioning the legal acumen of the Attorney General of Jamaica, the Major-General declines consulting the opinion of the learned gentleman on a point of military law, putting Government to the unnecessary expense of a heavy fee; for the Major-General could not seek advice in "forma pauperis."

The Major-General gives every permissible credit to yourself for a wish to do what is right, and commends the correct and laudable desire evinced by you for acquiring information, and he has at all times been well disposed to afford you every advice and assistance whenever such was sought.

I have, &c.

Colonel Hobbs,
Commanding 26th Regiment,
Newcastle.

(Signed) A. A. Nelson, D.A.G.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 73.) King's House, March 24, 1866.

(Received April 12, 1866.)

SIR, (Answered by No. 30, July 30, 1866, and by No. 31, Aug. 1, 1866, page 106.)

THE Special Commission ordered by my predecessor for the trial of persons accused of being implicated in the late disturbances, and of others arrested on charges of sedition and treason, has concluded its proceedings after a long and patient investigation of the various cases submitted to it.

The results are shown in the enclosed Return.

The two criminals sentenced to death for the murder of Mr. Hire and Mr. Walton have suffered the extreme penalty of the law, and the other persons sentenced to various terms of penal servitude and imprisonment are undergoing punishment in the prison of Kingston.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 14.

RETURN of Convictions, Acquittals, &c. of Persons tried under the Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer at Kingston, between 24th January and 9th March 1866.

No.	Names.	Charge.	Finding.	Sentence.	Remarks.
1	Emanuel Joseph Goldson.	For seditious words used at the Underhill meeting held in Kingston, on 3rd May 1865.	Discharged -	None - - -	Tried 26th and 27th January. Jury locked up until the 1st February; then discharged.
2	Edwin Palmer -	For seditious words used at the Underhill meeting held in Kingston, on 3rd May 1865.	Discharged -	None - - -	Judgment, on demurrer, for defendant.
3	Thomas Harry -	For seditious words used at the Underhill meeting held in Kingston, on 3rd May 1865.	Verdict, Guilty.	Sentenced to be imprisoned in the county gaol of Surry for the space of 6 weeks.	Tried 2nd February.
4	John Huett Crole -	For seditious words used at the Underhill meeting held in Kingston, on 3rd May 1865.	Verdict, Guilty -	Sentenced to be imprisoned in the county gaol of Surry for the space of 6 weeks.	Tried 3rd February.
5	Sidney Levien -	For seditious libels published in County Union newspaper on 17th Oct. 1865 and 12th May 1865.	Verdict, Guilty on the first count.	Sentenced to be imprisoned in the county gaol of Surry for the space of 12 months.	Tried 8th February.
6	Sidney Levien -	For seditious libel published in the County Union newspaper, 26th May 1865.	Not tried -	- - - -	Nolle prosequi entered.
7	Edwin Palmer -	For seditious words used at the Underhill meeting held in Kingston, on 3rd May 1865.	Verdict, Guilty -	Sentenced to be imprisoned in the county gaol of Surry for the period of 2 months.	Tried 19th February.
8	William Kelly Smith Edwin Palmer. Emanuel Joseph Goldson. Isaac Moses Vag. James Francis Roach. John Huett Crole. Thomas Harry. Sidney Levien. Robert George Bruce.	For conspiracy - -	Verdict, Not guilty.	- - - -	Tried 24th February.
9	Alexander Taylor -	For the murder of John Walton.	Verdict, Guilty -	Sentence, Death - -	Tried 27th February.
10	Robert Nicholas -	For the murder of Augustus Hire.	Verdict, Guilty -	Sentence, Death - -	Tried 28th February.
11	1. Henry Theophilus Bogle. 2. John Ashwith. 3. Wm. Donaldson. 4. Benjamin Bingling. 5. Matthew Ford.	For felonious riot -	Verdict, Not Guilty:—John Ashwith, Jas. Francis, Joshua Gordon, Edward Gordon, Robert Pin-	Sentence.—Henry Theophilus Bogle, Benjamin Bingling, John Gough, William Grant, William Osborne, Peter O'Hayan, David Stewart, Alex. Taylor, Ro-	Tried 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th of March. William Donaldson and Francis Crowell, included in this case, were not tried. They

JAMAICA.

No.	Names.	Charge.	Finding.	Sentence.	Remarks.
11 (*cont.*)	6. Sampson Champney. 7. Elizabeth Fawlkner. 8. Francis Crowell. 9. James Failey. 10. James Francis. 11. Rosanna Finlayson. 12. David Ferquson. 13. John Gough. 14. William Ford. 15. Joshua Gordon. 16. Edward Gordon. 17. Caroline Grant. 18. Robert Grant. 19. Thomas Graham. 20. William Grant. 21. Sarah Johnson. 22. Isaac Joseph. 23. Alexander Murray. 24. Wm. M'Gregor. 25. Henry Mitchell. 26. Nancey Murray. 27. Ennis Napier. 28. William Osborne. 29. Peter O'Hagan. 30. Robert Pinnock. 31. Nathaniel Richards. 32. Daniel Stewart. 33. John Taylor. 34. Alexander Taylor. 35. Alexander Taylor. 36. Elizabeth Taylor. 37. Ann Thomson. 38. George Thomas. 39. Alexander White. 40. Robert Wilson.		nock, John Taylor, and George Thomas. All the others Guilty, except Wm. Donaldson and Frances Crowell and Alexander Taylor, not tried. Nolle prosequi as to David Ferquson.	bert Wilson, Sarah Johnson, Caroline Grant, Isaac Joseph, Alexander Murray, Ennis Napier, Nathaniel Richards, each to penal servitude for life. Matthew Ford, Elizth. Faulkner, James Failey, Rosanna Finlayson, William Ford, Robert Grant, Thomas Graham, William M'Gregor, Henry Mitchell, Nancey Murray, Elizabeth Taylor, to penal servitude for a period of 20 years each. Sampson Champney and Ann Thomson to penal servitude for a period of 10 years each. Alex. White to be imprisoned in the Kingston Gaol Penitentiary for a period of 2 years, and while there to be kept to hard labour.	were defended, and severally exercised their right of challenge, exhausting the panel. The Attorney General put them aside, and proceeded with the trial of the other prisoners. Alexander Taylor convicted of murder. Nolle prosequi as to David Ferquson.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 74.) King's House, March 24, 1866.

SIR, (Received April 12, 1866.)

IN compliance with the instructions contained in paragraph 416, page 103 of the Colonial Regulations, I have the honor to report for your information that the two men named in the margin were executed at Kingston on the 22nd instant for murder.

Alexander Taylor.
Robert Nicholas.

Enclosed I transmit an extract from the minutes of the Privy Council of Jamaica relative to the cases of these men.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 15.

Enclosure in No. 15.

Jamaica. At a Privy Council, 12th March 1866.

PRESENT:

His Excellency Sir HENRY STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, &c. &c. &c.
Hon. Sir BRYAN EDWARDS, Knt., Chief Justice.
Hon. the Right Reverend the BISHOP OF KINGSTON.
Hon. HENRY WESTMORLAND.
Hon. WILLIAM HOSACK.
Hon. ALEXANDER HESLOP, Her Majesty's Attorney General.
Hon. EDWARD JORDON, C. B.

PURSUANT to the Royal instruction in that respect, his Excellency the Governor brought under consideration by the Privy Council the cases of Alexander Taylor and Robert Nicholas, convicted at the Special Commission Court in Kingston; the one of the murder of Mr. John Walton at Morant

Bay, in the parish of St. Thomas-ye-East, on the 11th October last, and the other of the murder of Mr. Augustus Hire at Amity Hall, in the same parish, on the 12th October last. The presiding Judge's notes of evidence in both cases had been previously circulated among the members of Council present for their perusal; and the presiding Judge, the Honorable Mr. Justice Kemble, was in attendance. JAMAICA.

The presiding Judge was called into the Council Chamber, discussed certain points of evidence, and answered certain questions put by members of the Board, and expressed himself satisfied with the verdicts of the juries in both cases.

The Judge then withdrew.

Resolved,

That, in the opinion of the Privy Council, his Excellency the Governor be advised that the sentence in each of these cases should be executed.

True extract. W. R. MYERS,
Clerk, Privy Council,
Jamaica.

No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 78.) King's House, March 31, 1866.
(Received, April 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE read in the Anti-Slavery Reporter as follows: "Twelve of the crew of "the Wolverine are accused by an eye-witness of having perpetrated during two days, "upon the person of a Mrs. Henderson, a Methodist class leader, a series of the foulest "outrages; but the witness's tongue was sealed."

2. I observe also that Lord Elcho mentioned the subject in the House of Commons.

3. I transmit for your information an extract from a letter written by Dr. Gerard, a medical man who lives in the neighbourhood of Morant Bay, addressed to the Honorable P. Espeut, the Custos of St. Thomas-in-ye-East, who placed it in my hands.

4. You will perceive that the outrages referred to in the Anti-Slavery Reporter did not take place, and from inquiries I have instituted I believe the story to be without foundation.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received further communications with reference to the case of Mrs. Henderson, and beg to enclose the same for your information, and to acquaint you that that person appears to be known both as Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Anderson.

Enclosure 1 in No. 16.

Encl. 1 in No. 16.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Dr. Gerard to the Custos of St. Thomas-ye-East, dated Morant Bay, March 23, 1866.

Have you read the "Journal" of yesterday, the 22d? Lord Elcho, in the House of Commons, on the authority of the Morning Star, stated that 12 of the crew of the "Wolverine" are accused by an eye-witness of committing a series of the foulest outrages on the person of a Mrs. Henderson, Morant Bay.

The "Journal" also says that there will be no difficulty in obtaining reliable evidence that the occurrence did take place.

Now I know all the facts of the case, having been called upon by a magistrate to examine and report on her state of mind. She was living with McIntosh, the carpenter, who was hanged during martial law, and this fact had such an effect on her mind that she lost or partially lost her reason.

Justice Marshalleck and myself went down to her yard the day we heard of the sailors having been there, and we discovered on the spot, by her neighbours and friends in the yard, that she had herself invited a sailor into her house, fed him, told him she had been looking out for him, called him her husband, &c., and when they were in bed together she called her neighbours to look at her. These are the facts, and I never heard of more than one sailor ever sleeping there. You make use of my name in the matter.

I signed a certificate as to her state of mind at the time, and put it down in my mind as a case of nymphomania.

JAMAICA.

Enclosure 2 in No. 16.

Encl. 2 in No. 16.

I KNOW Mrs. Eliza Anderson, of Morant Bay, as teacher of the London Missionary Society. I was informed of her being affected in mind. I attended, and endeavored to afford her spiritual help, and then left.

The day following, and afterwards, I heard that she was not better. There were certain reports of some sailors visiting her house.

I heard that she became more violent in her acts, which prevented my going near her to ascertain the truth, and I believe she so continued to act until I left, which was on the 14th Nov.

I may add that I was called to visit McIntosh, which I did on the same day martial law was proclaimed, in company with the Rev. R. M. Parnther, and found him (McIntosh) in Mrs. E. Anderson's house.

It is reported that she had unlawful intimacy with him. I used often to see McIntosh visiting her, and often met him in her house.

Mr. Hilbury told me that sailors visited her. I heard from many others that sailors used to go to her house, and of their drinking there.

I never heard of violence having been used to her by the sailors. I should think if such had been the case, I would have heard of it, as many people lived close to her.

The first time I ever heard that Mrs. E. Anderson had been ill treated by sailors was when Rev. Mr. Gardner told me there was such a report in Kingston, and asked me if I thought it could be true, I told him that I did not believe it was, and mentioned that she was cooking for Mr. Judah, to whom she could easily have complained.

(Signed) WILLIAM MOODY ROSS.

STATEMENT of MISS LOUISA ROSS, relative to Mrs. Anderson, Morant Bay.

I know Mrs. Anderson well. I heard it reported that she was visited by sailors, and went to see her. She was much excited, and seemed as if she had been drinking. She made many remarks about people of an improper character, and then told me she was expecting her gentleman to see her. I then said I would leave. She said she would thank me to do so. I saw her again next evening, but she was so excited I came away at once. It was a matter of common talk that she was visited by sailors. I always heard it spoken of that she received them of her own free consent. Never heard that there was any talk that the sailors violated her till I came to Kingston. When I first heard of sailors being with her, believing her to be a good woman, I thought some advantage must have been taken of her. I spoke of it to a female member of the church, who told me that, seeing a sailor go into the house, she went in herself soon after, and found them in the room together; the way in which they were, left no doubt as to their design. Mrs. Anderson never complained to me of being wronged. I think if she had complained to any one else I should have heard it, as all the people in the Bay know me. I have heard a great many people from Morant Bay speak of her, but always as a common woman.

When she was very much excited one day I heard her bawling out "When George McIntosh was alive he know all my wants, I would eat and drink and wear the best out of him." After his execution I heard it commonly reported that she was kept by him. I used to wonder that when any Christian people go to see her she acted as if she was out of her mind, and would sometimes throw bottles at them; but when the sailors went I heard she was quite quiet. I used to cry much about her, I was so grieved at her conduct. I asked Mr. Hilbury about her, as he was staying near her, if it was true that sailors visited her. He said, Yes; he think it with her consent; he had seen sailors there.

A woman who lived with her told me that she was going on so bad that she would leave. I liked Mrs. Anderson so much that I did all I could to find out the truth. I did not wish to think bad of her unless I knew it was true.

(Signed) LOUISA ROSS.

THE different Statements made to me respecting Mrs. Anderson are to the following effect:—

Rev. W. Harty saw McIntosh before his execution, and was much surprised that he wanted to see Mrs. Anderson, but seemed indifferent about his wife. Mr. Harty never seemed to have any idea that sailors had violated Mrs. Anderson.

Mr. Hilbery, a resident at Morant Bay, and deacon of the church Mrs. Anderson was connected with, stated to me that he had no doubt that sailors came to Mrs. Anderson of her own free will. One day passing her house, she was sitting at the door-step, but speaking to some one inside. He saw a sailor in the house, but did not feel quite sure what words Mrs. Anderson used. He asked a man that was with him what she said. The man replied that she said "What make you stop so long, I have been waiting for you?" Soon after Hilberry heard that the female referred to by Miss Ross went in and saw something that led her hastily to leave the house. Mr. Hilberry impressed me with the idea that he did not at all believe that Mrs. Anderson had been violated.

(Signed) W. J. GARDNER,
March 29th, 1866.

No. 17.

No. 17.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C. to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 82.) King's House, April 4, 1866.
(Received, April 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to transmit herewith a letter from Governor Eyre to me, giving cover to a Despatch from his Excellency addressed to you, in reply to your Despatch, No. 68,* of the 9th February last.

* Page 98.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Encl. in No. 17.

SIR, Flamstead, March 28, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to request your Excellency to be good enough to transmit to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the enclosed Despatch in reply to Mr. Cardwell's Despatch, No. 68, of the 9th February 1866, forwarded to me by his direction.

I have the honor, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B.

SIR, Flamstead, Jamaica, March, 28, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt, through Sir Henry Storks, of your Despatch, No. 68, of the 9th ultimo, transmitting for my information a copy of a letter from the War Department in reference to the publication by me of an extract from a private letter of Colonel Whitfield's.

In my Despatch, No. 326,* of the 8th December last, I transmitted copies of the correspondence which had passed between myself and General O'Connor on this subject; and you would have noticed in my letter to General O'Connor of the 1st December (Enclosure No. 2), that I readily admitted that Colonel Whitfield's letter, being a private one, ought not, under ordinary circumstances, to have been made public.

*Vide Papers presented Feb. 1866, Part I. Page 223.

I have only to add that the legislature was in session when Colonel Whitfield's letter was received; that my consitutional advisers considered the substance of it should be made known at once to both branches; that General O'Connor did not reside at Spanish Town where the legislature was sitting, but at Kingston, thirteen miles distant; and that as the extract referred to was sent down in a message the very same day the letter was received, there was no time to have communicated with General O'Connor first.

I have the honor, &c.
(Signed) E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 18.

No. 18.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 94.) King's House, April 20, 1866.
(Received, May 14, 1866.)
(Answered, No. 156, May 25, 1866, page 103.)

SIR,

THE evidence taken before the Royal Commissioners disclosed that acts of great barbarity had been committed at Bath, in St. Thomas-in-the-East, during martial law, where men had been flogged with wire cats, and women had received corporal punishment also.

2. These floggings were administered with the sanction of Mr. William Pitt Kirkland, a magistrate, who had no authority under the conditions of martial law to adjudicate cases, still less to order the infliction of corporal punishment.

3. Mr. Kirkland has relatives in various parts of St. Thomas-in-the-East who are employed in trade, and the stores or shops of these parties had been plundered by the insurgents, which may account in some degree for the cruelty displayed by Mr. Kirkland on this occasion.

4. Until the Royal Commissioners had concluded their inquiry, I was unwilling to take any steps which might interfere with their proceedings, but I have now considered it my duty to remove Mr. William Pitt Kirkland from the commission of the peace as a magistrate for St. Thomas-in-the-East; and I have also deprived him, after consulting

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the Executive Committee, of an appointment he holds as collector of dues, the proceeds of which, principally from fees, amounted last year to 140*l.*

5. I consider that it would be highly improper to permit any magistrate to remain in the commission of the peace, or any public officer to continue to serve this Government, who has been proved to be guilty of such acts of barbarity as those perpetrated at Bath under the authority of Mr. Kirkland.

6. I enclose a copy of the letter which has been addressed to Mr. Kirkland on this occasion.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 18.

Enclosure in No. 18.

The Hon. Edward Jordon to Mr. William Pitt Kirkland.

Governor's Secretary's Office,
Spanish Town, April 13, 1866.

Sir,

His Excellency the Governor having had under his consideration the evidence given by yourself and others before the Royal Commissioners as to the proceedings which took place at Bath during martial law, I am desired to express to you the deep concern and displeasure with which his Excellency has learnt that acts of barbarity were committed there with your sanction and under your authority as a magistrate.

2. His Excellency considers that you had no power to interfere or to adjudicate cases at all, still less to order corporal punishment on men and women, which was inflicted in some instances with an instrument of extreme and unusual severity. His Excellency is unwilling to dwell any further on a subject so painful and so discreditable, and I am to intimate to you that his Excellency has removed your name from from the commission of the peace for the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East, and has desired that a successor shall be immediately named to replace you in your appointment as collector of dues.

3. It is impossible for his Excellency to permit any one who has brought such discredit on the name and character of an Englishman by acts of illegal cruelty either to hold the Queen's commission, or to serve the Government of Jamaica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Edward Jordon,
Mr. W. P. Kirkland. Governor's Secretary.

No. 19.

No. 19.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 108.) King's House, May 8, 1866.
(Received, 30 May, 1866.)

Sir,

(Answered, No. 170, June 8, 1866, page 104.)

I have the honor to transmit to you the copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Salmon, Custos of St. Elizabeth and President of the Privy and Legislative Councils, to the Governor's Secretary, and also of an address which that gentleman submitted to me at the same time. The letter to Mr. Jordon was written in reply to a request for an explanation with reference to a former communication from Mr. Salmon relative to the storing of some arms which were sent to the parish during the late disturbances, and which it was proposed to remove on account of the expense attendant on their safe-keeping. Mr. Salmon forwarded to me the address at the same time, which it would appear he has retained for a considerable period in his possession, as it bears date the 28th February, and was not transmitted to me till the 25th April. I also enclose my reply to Mr. Salmon, and a newspaper, to which I make reference in my letter to him.

2. I should not have troubled you with these communications at all, if Mr. Salmon had not expressed a wish that the address should be brought to your notice. My answer to Mr. Salmon will put you in possession of my views as regards the proceedings of that gentleman and his brother custos of Manchester, Mr. Hollingsworth. The fact is, Mr. Salmon is somewhat of an alarmist, and I am afraid that the tendency of his mind is to exaggerate the excitement and angry feeling which he considers to have existed in this Island since the late disturbances. But if Mr. Salmon really believes that an angry and turbulent spirit does exist in this Colony, I am not aware of any course more likely to maintain it than the meetings which have been called by himself and Mr. Hol-

lingsworth for the purposes set forth in the advertisements. The Governor of Jamaica labours under great difficulties from the almost impossibility of obtaining trustworthy and reliable information. The police force is worthless, and requires immediate re-organization. The civil authorities, such as custodes, magistrates, and clerks of the peace, are more or less influenced by local associations, their apprehensions, and their prejudices. The clergy, both of the Established Church and the Dissenting denominations, see the negro through their own point of view, and report according to their sympathies or their impressions. However, amidst the labyrinth of conflicting opinions, one may dispassionately arrive at the conclusion that there is not much danger to the public security when no overt acts of turbulence or violence are committed, and when no proofs of illegal proceedings or intentions can be adduced, even by those most inclined to alarm. JAMAICA.

3. I believe this Island at the present moment to be perfectly tranquil; but at the same time an impressionable and ignorant race can be easily incited to disorder, and for this reason I have thought it my duty to express my disapproval of the course pursued by Messrs. Salmon and Hollingsworth in calling class public meetings, as the readies means of exciting the black population, not only by these proceedings, but by giving the friends of disorder an opportunity of agitating the people on the subject of such meetings.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 1 in No. 19. Encl.1 in No.19.

Honorable JOHN SALMON to Governor Sir H. STORKS.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, St. Elizabeth, April 25, 1866.

I HAVE been requested to forward to your Excellency the accompanying address from almost every resident large proprietor and attorney of the parishes of St. Elizabeth and Manchester, conveying to your Excellency their opinion on the present state of the Island, and to express the confidence they feel that your Excellency will, by every means in your power, recommend for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government such measures as your Excellency may believe necessary for the re-establishing a feeling of security and peace and prosperity through the Island.

I have, &c.

To his Excellency Sir Henry Storks, G.C.B. (Signed) JOHN SALMON.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2 in No. 19. Encl.2 in No.1

ADDRESS from the Magistrates and Proprietors of the parishes of ST. ELIZABETH and MANCHESTER to Sir H. STORKS.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, St. Elizabeth and Manchester, February 28, 1866.

WE, the magistrates and proprietors of the parishes of Saint Elizabeth and Manchester, approach your Excellency with the greatest respect. We desire to assure your Excellency and the gentlemen associated with you in the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the late rebellion in this Island that we entertain the utmost confidence in the feeling which will guide the Commissioners, and we believe that the decision arrived at will be just, so far as the evidence which may come before them.

We refrain from offering any opinion on the proceedings which have been ordered by the British Government, though they greatly influence the causes which bring us to your Excellency.

Putting aside then this question, that which we desire to submit to your Excellency is the situation into which we have been brought, and the terrible certainty that, although living under British authority, we feel that we have no longer confidence in property; that our families are in doubt as to security for life; nay, that those dear to us may be liable to worse than death.

It cannot be denied that there is much irritation and disappointment among the black population; and that they do not conceal that they are expecting, and are prepared to assist in carrying out, some change favourable to themselves as the result of the present Rebellion Inquiry. It cannot be denied that their every day open conversation is the punishment of the authorities who acted in the putting down the late rebellion, and that the "murder" of the revolting blacks is to be punished, and that they are daily taught this.

With all these certainties as to the feeling of so large a portion of our inhabitants, we respectfully represent to your Excellency that we believe that we are not at present safe in a limited authority, or in the force at your Excellency's command; and if an outbreak were to take place, we hear of no expected increase of troops, which would be so needful; we do not understand that there are arms in the Island for the well disposed to use for their protection.

There are among us rumors of nightly meetings of people, said to be for religious purposes, which we submit are not only unnecessary, but, at such a time as the present, productive of serious evil.

Those who were lately civil and respectful have again become rude, uncivil, and threatening. We find, in fact, that our social state is so unsettled and alarming, that we are compelled to come to your

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Excellency to inquire whether some protective and preventive measures be not possible, which will suppress at present and for the future these causes for apprehension of danger.

We acknowledge that we can bring no legal proof to convict, because no man can be found who will inform, let his knowledge of what is said or done be what it may; for doing so his life is exposed to great risk; but we have that general information from black and coloured people which leaves no doubt of peril, if any unhappy commencement of disturbance offered an opportunity to the evil disposed

The state of excitement and dissatisfaction to which a large portion of the black population has been brought, we refer to your Excellency has thrown back this people for many many years, rendering it necessary for a Government of this Island to be possessed of authority, strong, decisive, and immediate; without this, nothing appears to us but, as soon as we can, to seek for safety in some other country.

St. Elizabeth.

John Salmon, Custos.

A sheet which was to have been attached to this address has been lost, but on it were, among other, the names of the following gentlemen:—

R. W. Smith.
Js. Farquharson.
Arthur Beswick.
W. H. Coke.
W. C. Carter.
Wm. Hill, &c., representing some 15 estates and pens.
J. Isaacs, Iver Cottage, Corby Castle, Macvemwell, Wales, and Phantillands.
Wm. Finlason, Kensington.
Charles E. Isaacs, Pavilion.
Jno. Calder, Stanmore Hill and Pern Plantations.
S. J. Mauley, Kepp.
J. W. Leyden, Black River.
J. E. Kerr, Chewmagna.
John Cuff, Coroner and J.P., Emman's Pen.
Charles Hall, J.P., New Buildings.
Alfred Bourn, Longword Pen, Manchester.
John R. Hollingsworth, Custos, M.C.P., and proprietor of Brumalia, Newton, and St. Andrews.
M. Muirhead, M.C.P., Manchester.
J. R. Tomlinson, J.P.
George Miles, J.P.
F. M. Chevers, M.D., J.P., and H. M's. coroner, proprietor of Cedar Grove, Bermudas, Plantation.
Alex. W. Heron, J.P., and proprietor of Mile Gully, Spitzbergen, Wigton, Glasgour Aye.
Peter McLaren, J.P., and proprietor of Bencefield, Attorney for Hermitage and the Park Pens, and joint lessee with R. W. Smith for Williamsfild Pen.
J. W. G. Muirhead, J.P.
Allan Kennedy, J.P.
Crawfd. Smith, J.P.
Joseph Stewart, J.P.
Horatio Swaby, J.P.
S. Glane, J.P.
S. Bonitto, J.P.
Thomas S. Powell, J.P.
George Sturridge, J.P.
J. F. Morrish.
Alex. C. Logan, J.P.
Julius Lunis, J.P.
Charles E. Chevers, J.P.
J. P. Clark, J.P.
Wm. Forbes, Rector of Manchester.
Fred. Hugill, Commissioned Land Surveyor and Lessee of Kingsland and Hopeton Pens.
Lionel Isaacs, J.P.

Encl. 3 in No. 19.

Enclosure 3 in No. 19.

The Hon. John Salmon to the Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B.

Sir, Malvern, April 25, 1866.

I have the honor to reply to Despatch No. 653. I have read over my communication of 19th April forwarded to you.

I do not observe that the opinion therein expressed differs very much from that of 5th March, or the communication I took the liberty of addressing to his Excellency the Governor, of 29th January,

alluding to the "safe keeping of the volunteer arms," and "a strong military force besides," I wrote generally for the peace of the Island.

If there had been any special local reason for reporting to the Governor, I should have made a special communication. But I have no reliance on the population if there were any disturbance anywhere in the Island with any success. Those without any evil intention now would follow what would appear a fortunate commencement, and having, as they are told, the approval of the Queen, and good people in England.

"Evidence," such as I understand to be required, cannot, as has been stated, be obtained of the dissatisfied state of many of the people, but every one believes it. Does any one deny it?

If information derived from the common negro conversation at the public markets, of the division of the lands to take place, and the reports of the well disposed to those in whom they have confidence, be worth anything (that men are constantly travelling through the country with threatenings of what is to be done), then caution is necessary, and prevention.

I repeat, because I am very much interested for myself and others having property here, and I consider it my duty to state it plainly, that my own and the general opinion of the gentlemen of this part of the Island at least is that the strictest caution is necessary now, and will become more so on the Report of the Royal Commission being published. Whatever the nature of that Report may be, proprietors here have lived long with the negro, and have foreseen that which has happened. They fear bad advice will again mislead, for they believe the same elements are at work which produced the last outbreak.

The state of the people cannot be looked on as satisfactory or quiet, when the food the honest work for, it is quite a chance if they reap; when every man's hand may be said to be against his neighbour; when I can forward affidavits, if required, from the fathers of families that they are obliged nightly to watch their grounds and gardens to preserve food for their children; and that their following the trade they have been taught only exposes their families to starvation, by the robbery, in their absence, of all they plant, even before fit for use, when either the sugar cane, the coffee, or the pimento is safe from plunder, and the two last from being taken off the trees when becoming ripe, and from the barbacues when curing.

The clergy of the Church of England, the Moravians, the Dissenters, except, I believe, one sect, agree in the unsettled and unsatisfactory state of the black population, and of the great decrease of attendants at public worship, and of the little respect paid them.

I do not say rebellion will come to-day, or this year, but that the population are in so unsettled a state that they would follow, without thought of consequences, any unchecked outbreak, and that it is right they should see there is some force at hand to put down at once any attempt to act, even illegally.

This is one of the remarks made publicly, "Tan tae the soldier, and dem ship gone." This may be worth little or nothing, but such expressions are supposed to have meaning.

All these are reasons which have induced "the tone" of my communication to the Government; and I respectfully represent that I believe them sufficient to call forth the greatest carefulness as respects the present and coming conduct of the blacks, and of the many who profess to be their friends and instructors.

In corroboration of my opinions, I have to forward to his Excellency Sir H. Storks an address from gentlemen, proprietors of properties, and attornies for absentees, in the parishes of St. Elizabeth and Manchester.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN SALMON,
Custos, St. Elizabeth.

Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B.,
Governor's Secretary, Spanish Town.

Enclosure 4 in No. 19.

Encl. 4 in No. 19.

Sir HENRY STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., to the Honorable JOHN SALMON, Custos of St. Elizabeth's, Jamaica.

SIR, Newcastle, April 29, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant, transmitting an address "from almost every resident large proprietor and attorney in the parishes of St. Elizabeth's and Manchester," conveying to me their opinion on the present state of the Island. I observe that the address bears the date of the 28th of February last; but I presume, from your transmitting it in your quality as custos of St. Elizabeth, that you have ascertained that the gentlemen who signed it entertain the same opinion as to the alarming state of the Island on the 25th of April as they did at the time the address bears date.

2. I shall not fail to transmit the address for the information and consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

3. The state of things described in the address, and the feeling of insecurity which seems to prevail in your neighbourhood, are sufficiently startling, but I cannot gather from the address, nor from any illegal acts committed in your neighbourhood, nor in other parts of the Island, as far as the information in the possession of the Government goes, that there is anything which calls for so serious an expression of alarm as that contained in the address, and in a letter written by you to Mr. Jordon, bearing date the 25th inst.

4. If any outbreak or breach of the peace on the part of the negro population should unfortunately take place, it will be the duty of the Government to repress it, and to punish the offenders according

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to law; but I am not aware of any preventive measures, other than those adopted, which can be resorted to under existing circumstances.

5. It is much to be desired that perfect tranquility should be preserved on the part of all classes and colours. To obtain this an entire cessation from excitement would be the best security. And I cannot but observe with regret that public meetings in connexion with the late disturbances are advertised in the papers to be held, two days after the date of your letter under acknowledgment, in the parishes over which you and Mr. Hollingsworth preside as custodes. No country can be preserved in a condition of tranquility when the minds of all classes, and particularly of the lower orders, are stimulated and excited by class public meetings to commemorate events which have passed, and which it would be more judicious to endeavour to forget, rather than to perpetuate or revive.

5. In your letter of the 25th inst. you state that the reports of the well disposed to those in whom they have confidence, go to show "that men were constantly travelling through the country with threatenings of what is to be done," and that the proprietors believe that "the same elements are at work which produced the last outbreak." I would ask, who and what are they? Why are not the travellers arrested, or at any rate informed against? Why are not the elements defined?

6. With reference to the robberies and larcenies of which you complain in your letter to Mr. Jordon, everybody is prepared to admit that this crime is prevalent throughout the Island, and requires strong means of suppression. Persons who rob their neighbours should be punished, and it appears to me that proprietors, whether large or small, are adopting the best means to check that abuse by establishing a nightly watch over their grounds. It cannot be expected that the Government should place a policeman in every man's provision grounds, but the proprietors can do much for mutual protection against thieves by organizing their own private watchmen.

7. I am unwilling to pursue the subject any further, but I would wish to observe to you and to the other gentlemen who have signed the address which you have transmitted to me that I cannot too strongly impress upon them the importance of allaying excitement and irritation by not joining themselves in any public party demonstrations; and I would further observe that, should any breach of the peace take place, I cannot hold the local authorities absolved from responsibility by having transmitted to the Government expressions of alarm without corroborative proof, or warnings as to the future without some tangible evidence of public disaffection, and intended resistance to authority.

I have, &c.

The Hon. John Salmon, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. Storks.

Enc. 5 in No. 19.

Enclosure 5 in No. 19.

Extract from the "Gleaner" Newspaper of 27th April 1866.

Testimonial to Governor Eyre.

To the Hon. J. R. Hollingsworth, Custos.

Sir,

Mandeville, April 19, 1866.

We, the undersigned, request you will convene a public meeting at your earliest convenience, for the purpose of collecting funds for a testimonial to his Excellency Edward John Eyre, Esquire, in recognition of his valuable services in this Colony during the late rebellion.

(Signed)

Peter McLaren.	M. Muirhead.
S. Bonitto.	Lionel Isaacs, J.P.
J. F. Morrish.	M. E. Muirhead, J.P.
Ewd. Jacobs.	James Benthrone.
Danl. V. Sutherland.	Wm. Forbes.
W. Russell Hall.	F. M. Chevers,
Wm. Ewd. Rowe.	J. D. Lewis.
Ewd. J. Alexander.	Alex. W. Heron, J.P.
George Sturridge, J.P.	F. Davis.
Fred. Angell.	Jos. Stewart.
Alex. Napier, J.P.	C. E. Chevers, J.P.

In compliance with the above requisition, I appoint Saturday, the 28th April, for such meeting at the Court House, Mandeville.

(Signed) John R. Hollingsworth, Custos.

Testimonial to Governor Eyre.

St. Elizabeth, April 10, 1866.

In accordance with the desire of the inhabitants, a meeting will be held at the Court House, Black River, on Friday the 27th April, for the purpose of arranging for the collection of a thanks offering which the parishioners desire to present to his Excellency Edward John Eyre.

John Salmon, Custos.

No. 20.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 113.) King's House, May 21, 1866.

Sir, (Received, June 12, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to transmit to you a duplicate copy of a letter and its enclosures which I have received from Mr. Eyre, together with a copy of my reply thereto.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received another letter from Mr. Eyre on the same subject, a copy of which I transmit.

H. K. S.

Encl. in No. 20.

Enclosure in No. 20.

SIR, Flamstead, Jamaica, May 15, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to request your Excellency will be pleased to transmit to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the enclosed printed letter published in the "Morning Journal" newspaper of the 10th instant by the Rev. J. E. Henderson, Baptist Minister of Montego Bay.

I append a copy of Mr. Henderson's letter of the 30th October last, to which reference is made in this communication.

It will be noticed by the Secretary of State that Mr Henderson's letter of the 30th October was written during the prevalence of martial law, and that he simply asked for information which it was out of my power to give. He was consequently and properly referred to the officer in command of Her Majesty's troops in the martial law district as the only person able to comply with his request.

I was not, as he now states was the case, "earnestly solicited to interfere," nor was I "earnestly "requested to see that Mr. Service had a fair trial," nor was there any allegation that he was in danger of the scaffold.

It is unnecessary for me to call the attention of the Secretary of State to the spirit in which one of the leading Baptist Ministers thus writes publicly in the journals of the Colony, or to the very evil influence which such a system of writing relative to the late Governor of the Colony, and who may shortly again be called upon to resume the administration, must necessarily have upon such an excitable and easily misled people as the negro race.

It was exactly this course of writing and speaking of the authorities by the late G. W. Gordon, by some of the Baptist ministers, and by others, which, in connexion with the allegations also made by them of grievances which the black people were told that they laboured under, and for which they were to seek redress, that led to the late rebellion, and may at no distant date, if persevered in, again lead to further outrages.

I append also an extract from the "Guardian" newspaper of the 12th May, and another from the "Gleaner" of the 14th May, narrating two recent occurrences, which, if correctly reported, give a painful indication of the unsatisfactory state of feeling and conduct still evinced by some of the labouring classes.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B. (Signed) E. EYRE.
&c. &c. &c.

Extract from the "MORNING JOURNAL," 10th May 1866.

To the Editor of the "Morning Journal."

SIR,

IN an excellent article in the "Saturday Review" of April 7th, on Jamaica, which I hope you will be able to copy, I find the following: "Mr. Eyre, who was eager to claim credit for his personal "activity in suppressing an imaginary rebellion, never thought of inquiring into the truth of rumors "with which the whole Island was ringing." So far from this, Mr. Eyre would not interfere when earnestly solicited to do so. He considered it no part of his business to save innocent men from the scaffold. He has been most correctly described as a man without mercy. Thus when the Rev. Mr. Service was arrested and taken to Port Antonio to be tried by court-martial, Mr. Eyre was written to, and earnestly requested to see that that gentleman obtained a fair trial. How did he act? Let the following letter reply:—

(Copy)—No. 1951.

"SIR, "Gov. Sec. Office, November 3, 1865.

" I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 30th instant, and to refer you to " the officer in command of Her Majesty's troops in St. Thomas-in-the-East, under whom are all matters " connected with the parishes in which martial law prevails.

"I have &c.

"Rev. J. E. Henderson, (Signed) "EDWARD JORDON, Gov. Sec.
Montego Bay."

JAMAICA.

To Mr. Eyre the life of Mr. Service was nothing. He well knew that long before the commanding officer of the district could be reached the fate of Mr. Service would be sealed. For anything Mr. Eyre cared, that gentleman might have shared the fate of the lamented G. W. Gordon.

Yours truly,
(Signed) J. E. HENDERSON.

The Rev. J. E. HENDERSON to Mr. JORDON.

SIR, Montego Bay, October 30 1865.

I SEE by the newspapers that the Reverend J. B. Service, an accredited agent of the Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society labouring in the Boston district in the parish of Portland, has been arrested.

I shall feel greatly obliged if his Excellency the Governor can consistently with justice inform me of the nature of the charges which have been brought against him. The Reverend J. B. Service was sent to labour in Portland by the Society already mentioned, and it would surprise and pain his supporters to learn that he is in any way mixed up with the atrocities which have been perpetrated in Saint Thomas-in-the-East.

I am, &c.
(Signed.) J. E. HENDERSON.
Treasurer of Jamaica B.M.S.

The Hon. Edward Jordan, C.B.
&c. &c. &c.

Extract from the "GUARDIAN," 12th May 1866.

AT about eleven o'clock yesterday his Excellency Governor Sir Henry Storks, K.C.B., accompanied by his aides-de-camp, entered the Police Court, Spanish Town, to prosecute a charge of furious riding against three black men. The court was crowded by many who, no doubt, were attracted by the novelty of the proceedings,—a gentleman in such a high position prosecuting a charge of the kind.

We noticed on the bench as sitting magistrates the Hon. R. Hill, William T. March, and Moses Bravo, Esquires.

The charge having been read by the acting clerk to the magistrates, Mr. James Allwood, the prisoners were severally arraigned, and each pleaded guilty to the charge. When subsequently asked if they had anything to say in excuse of their conduct, each made a statement to the effect "that he "was led into galloping his horse by a desire to overtake the others, and that when the horse was "at its speed he found it difficult to pull up when he saw gentlemen on the road."

The magistrates, after consultation, fined each in 20*s.*, or 20 days in the county jail. The fines were promptly paid. On which his Excellency Sir Henry Storks rose and addressed the magistrates and those present. He said that he had thought it his duty to prosecute this case, not as Governor but as a private gentleman, with a view of teaching a lesson to the peasantry about Spanish Town, who, he regretted to say, were in the habit of too frequently riding furiously and behaving discourteously on the public road. It was not the first or second time that he had witnessed or been subject to conduct of the kind, and he thought it his duty to endeavour to teach such men that the law must be obeyed.

We cannot commend too highly the conduct of his Excellency the Governor in this matter. He had observed carefully for several months the conduct of several persons on the public roads; and having found that the evil was a serious one, he determined to invoke the law, in abatement of the nuisance and great danger to be apprehended. He has set an example to the respectable people of the country as to what they should do when persons violate the law as regards their persons or property—that they should not take redress into their own hands—but appeal to the legal tribunals. And we trust the decisions of the magistrates of St. Catherine, and of other parishes, in cases of this kind, will be found consistent—that they will convict and fine as readily a case clearly proved, come from however humble a quarter, as when it proceeds from the highest in the land.

Extract from the "GLEANER" 14th May 1866.

BRUTAL OUTRAGE.

WE are informed that the post on Saturday last brought intelligence of a most brutal assault committed on Mr. Groves, overseer of Wheelersfield, in Saint Thomas-ye-East. Mr. Groves had occasion to prosecute several of the people for larceny of bread fruits, and the case having been decided against them, they proceeded to the property, and severely beat both himself and bookkeeper, leaving them almost at death's door.

Governor Sir HENRY STORKS to Governor EYRE.

SIR, King's House, May 21, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th inst., and its enclosures, which I will transmit as you request to the Secretary of State.

2. However much the tone and substance of such a letter as that of Mr. Henderson is to be reprobated, I do not see how letters and articles which appear in the public papers are to be repressed. There are laws in Jamaica regulating the press, and beyond those laws neither the Government nor individuals can proceed. I apprehend that the course to be pursued, under the circumstances which you desire should be brought to the notice of the Secretary of State, would be a prosecution of the editor of the paper or of the Rev. Mr. Henderson for a libel.

3. With reference to the last part of your letter, in which you state that you append an extract from the "Guardian" newspaper of the 12th of May, and another from the "Gleaner" of the 14th of May,

and "which give a painful indication of the unsatisfactory state of feeling and conduct still evinced by "some of the labouring classes," I regret that I cannot concur in that observation. JAMAICA.

4. As regards the first case, it was simply one of furious riding on the public road,—a bad practice, which exists in other countries than Jamaica, and which is not confined even in Jamaica to the labouring classes. I considered that the evil should be checked; I, therefore, took my legal remedy, and summoned the parties before the magistrates, by whom they were fined. I do not believe that these parties knew that I was the Governor of Jamaica when they passed me on the road, nor was it very material that they should be aware of that fact. I summoned them for endangering the lives of the public by furious riding. I appealed to the law for the protection of myself and others,—a course which I always follow when I see the law infringed, and the rules which govern civilized societies set at defiance. But I must state, in justice to the lower orders, that I have everywhere received great deference and courtesy from them on all occasions.

5. As to the extract from the "Gleaner" relative to the beating of the overseer and bookkeeper at Wheelersfield, it is untrue. No such occurrence has taken place. Inquiry has been instituted as to the author of this report; and if he can be found he will be punished according to law.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Governor Eyre, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. Storks.

Governor Eyre to Governor Sir H. Storks.

Sir, Flamstead, May 22, 1866.

In a despatch dated the 15th May I enclosed to your Excellency with other papers an extract from the "Gleaner" newspaper of the previous day, purporting to give an account of an aggression said to have been committed by the negroes of "Wheelersfield" estate upon the persons of the overseer and book-keeper of that property, and which I remarked, if correctly reported, gave a painful indication of the state of feeling and conduct still evinced by some of the labouring classes.

Living as I do at present in the mountainous district of Port Royal I had no means of learning at the time whether the statement made in the Gleaner was correct, or not.

I have since seen it contradicted in the same paper, and I hasten therefore to inform your Excellency that I am glad to find from this contradiction that the allegation made in the "Gleaner" of the 14th May, of misconduct on the part of the negroes of "Wheelersfield," was unfounded.

I have, &c.

His Excellency Sir H. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) E. Eyre.

No. 21. No. 21.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B, to the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.

(No. 132.) King's House, June 21, 1866.

(Received, July 13, 1866.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 24, July 25, 1866, page 105.)

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a correspondence forwarded to me by Mr. M. Solomon, clerk of the magistrates for the parish of St. Ann, in respect to Mr. Justice Ker's letter of the 21st November 1865, published in the Blue Book relating to the disturbances in Jamaica.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

Enclosure in No. 21. Encl. in No. 21.

Extract from "Papers relating to the Disturbances in Jamaica."

Part 1.

Mr. Justice Ker to Mr. Jordon.

Sir, Gordon Town, November 21, 1865.

I am informed that in no part of Jamaica is disaffection more prevalent at the present moment than in the parish of St. Ann's. That this has been largely owing there, as elsewhere, to the acts of demagogues, and the seditious and disloyal tone of an unprincipled newspaper press, there can be no room to doubt. I am called upon to observe, however, that St. Ann's has long had a real grievance; that grievance is the fact that the confidential clerk and manager of the leading mercantile firm there, the Messrs. Bravo, is at the same time clerk of the magistrates and deputy clerk of the peace.

It is utterly impossible, but that a very large proportion of the cases which come before the magistrates for adjudication are cases in which the Messrs. Bravo are either directly or indirectly interested, or in which they have or are believed to have a bias.

But could an uninstructed population ever be persuaded that justice would be done in such cases? In point of fact they do not believe it, as I have occasion very well to know.

Jamaica.

The influence exercised by the clerk of the magistrates over the bench is necessarily very great, sometimes paramount.

Some recent decisions from St. Ann's, which have been brought to my notice, have given me a most unfavourable impression of the administration of justice in that parish.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Alan Ker, J.

To his Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., Governor, &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned magistrates of the parish of St. Ann, have read with just indignation a letter published in the Blue Book last received (Part I. Enclosure 18 in No. 44), and addressed to the Hon. Edward Jordon by Mr. Justice Ker, a copy of which we beg to annex.

In this letter a Judge of the Supreme Court has stated, that the people of St. Ann suffer under a "real grievance," this grievance being the fact that the confidential clerk and manager of the leading mercantile firm there is at the same time clerk of the magistrates and deputy clerk of the peace; that it is utterly impossible but that the Messrs. Bravo (the firm above-mentioned) are directly or indirectly interested in a very large proportion of the cases which come before the magistrates for adjudication; that the influence exercised by the clerk of the magistrates over the bench is necessarily very great, sometimes paramount; that on this account the mass of the people neither can nor do believe in the possibility of their obtaining justice in our parochial courts; and, that he, Mr. Justice Ker himself, has received a most unfavourable impression of the administration of justice in this parish.

In other words, the whole body of magistrates of this parish are charged with habitually and notoriously prostituting their judicial powers, at the instigation and under the influence of their clerk, in the interest and for the benefit of a single commercial firm.

With regard to the charge directed against their clerk, the magistrates undersigned consider it as simply due to that gentlemen that they should affirm their belief that no body of magistrates in the Island is served by an officer of more undoubted integrity, or by one who is more earnest in the promotion of impartial justice; and upon the correctness and efficiency with which the duties of his offices are performed, every Judge upon circuit, Mr. Justice Ker himself included, has remarked in the highest terms of approval.

The charge against themselves and their fellow magistrates, the undersigned do here deliberately and solemnly declare to be as extravagantly untrue as it is mischievous and degrading.

The supervision of the magisterial body pertains in a special manner to your Excellency's high office; the maintenance of tranquillity and confidence is the chief end of all government; and it is on these grounds that we present this address to the Governor of Jamaica.

In the general judicial system of the country the courts over which we preside are even more important than those of the highest grade, inasmuch as it is by us that the cases affecting personally the great masses of the population are tried and decided; and it is clear that all respect for the magisterial character, all confidence in the justice of our decisions, must be lost, should such accusations as those levelled against us and our office by Mr. Justice Ker be passed over without immediate notice, and without a most searching inquiry.

It is this inquiry which we now earnestly call upon your Excellency to institute. Mr. Justice Ker is bound by every tie of decency and honor to take up the challenge we have formally cast down, and to show in the face of the whole community on what grounds he has advanced such charges as those we bring to your Excellency's notice.

The records of our courts exist for inspection. In them is entered each individual case that has come before us, the decision given thereupon, the evidence upon which that decision was given, and the names of the magistrates who pronounced it.

The appeals from our decisions are also on record, their result, and the grounds on which those decisions have been supported or reversed. No more ample materials can be imagined from which to draw proofs in support of an accusation, if only such accusation be just.

Should these charges be borne out by proofs, it is imperatively necessary for the peace and well-being of the country that we should be stripped of power so basely abused. Should it, on the other hand, appear that so gross an accusation has been put forward on light and insufficient grounds, we shall leave your Excellency and the public to infer what manner of man he must be who, holding the almost sacred office of Judge, can wantonly charge a whole body of magistrates with a crime of peculiar and supreme infamy.

We have the honor to be
Your Excellency's most obedient humble servants,

(Signed)

Charles Royes, Custos.
C. C. Bravo, J.P.
R. Robinson, J.P.
E. G. Barrett, J.P.
Thomas B. Scott, J.P.
Chas. Fletcher, J.P.
Richard Carter, J.P.
Richard Moss, J.P.
Samuel Horlock, J.P.
Donald Mackintosh, J.P.
John Russell Powell, J.P.
Charles Isaacs, J.P.
Judah Moses, J.P.
Joseph Harris, J.P.
Thomas Brown, J.P.
David Collie, J.P.
Geo. Robinson, J.P.

SIR, Governor's Secretary's Office, April 18, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, with accompanying communication from yourself and sixteen other justices, complaining of the remarks made by Mr. Justice Ker in a letter dated 21st November 1865, addressed to the Governor's Secretary, and printed in the parliamentary papers.

The communication was addressed to Mr. Justice Ker, who, in a letter dated the 9th instant, says:—

" I frankly own that the concluding paragraph of the letter which has appeared in the Blue Book is " faultily worded. I may mention, in proof of my sincerity in making this admission, that when in " February last I had occasion to draw the attention of the Royal Commissioners to the subject of the " letter I furnished them with an extract only, omitting the paragraph referred to. I did so because " that part of the communication tends to convey the impression that I charged the justices with " deliberate partiality in the exercise of their office. I had no such intention ; and it is fit, therefore, " that I should express my extreme regret (and I can have no possible objection to the expression being " made public) that, through haste or inadvertence of mine, the petitioners, some of whom are " personally known to myself as gentlemen of position and character, should have been subjected to " such an imputation. What I sought to convey to Governor Eyre was simply this, that the administration of justice in St. Ann did not possess the confidence of the labouring population, and that " Mr. Solomon's employment as clerk of the magistrates, and deputy clerk of the peace, was one of " the causes of that want of confidence. But, having made the explanation, I desire to be permitted " to add that it is wholly out of my power to retract or qualify a single syllable of the assertion in the " last sentence."

His Excellency trusts that the explanation of Mr. Justice Ker will be satisfactory to you, and the other gentlemen whose names are appended to the communication above alluded to.

I have, &c.,

Hon. Charles Royes, Custos, St. Ann.

(Signed) EDWARD JORDON, Governor's Secretary.

To his Excellency Sir HENRY KNIGHT STORKS, Governor, &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, Saint Ann, May, 1866.

WE are in receipt of the Honorable Mr. Jordon's letter, No. 618, dated April 18, 1866, containing a copy of Mr. Justice Ker's explanation of the charges brought by him against the magistrates of St. Ann and their clerk, and concluding with the expression of a hope that such explanation may be considered satisfactory.

In this explanation Mr. Justice Ker has retracted a portion of the accusation brought by him against us, that of deliberate partiality in the exercise of our office, frankly owning the paragraph of his letter in which that charge was conveyed to be "faultily worded;" and he declares that although in his letter such a charge was clearly and unmistakeably alleged, he yet never meant to make it; and he expresses "his extreme regret that, through haste or inadvertence on his part, we should have been subjected to "such an imputation." We are bound in courtesy to accept Mr. Ker's assurance; and can only express regret and surprise that a high officer of justice could, while bringing the gravest accusations against a body of magistrates, commit an error of such a nature.

But although Mr. Justice Ker has thus abandoned the charge of deliberate partiality in the exercise of our office, the charge against us of maladministration of justice under the influence of our clerk, the "real grievance," according to Mr. Ker, under which the people of St. Ann labour, yet remains. We are not, it would appear, guilty, in Mr. Ker's opinion, of wilful and habitual perjury ; but we are so weak-minded, or so indifferent to our oaths of office, that, while not unwilling to do justice, we are systematically misled by a clerk, who, as manager of the principal firm in this parish, is, Mr. Ker alleges, interested in a very large proportion of the cases brought before us.

With respect to our clerk, we repeat the assertion of our belief that no body of magistrates in the Island is served by an officer of more perfect integrity, or by one more anxious to promote impartial justice.

It is asserted by Mr. Justice Ker to be impossible but that the firm with which our clerk, Mr. Solomon, is connected (that of the Messrs Bravo) should be directly or indirectly interested in a very large proportion of the cases which come before the magistrates for adjudication. Of cases in which this firm has been directly interested, we beg to state that in a space exceeding three years one only has come before us. The phrase "indirectly interested" is vague, readily lending itself to an evasion, and scarcely susceptible of a direct denial; but if Mr. Ker intends to employ the words in their common acceptation, we may declare our belief that cases in which the Messrs Bravo have even an "indirect interest" are of very rare occurrence ; and we affirm that the paragraph now referred to has also been "faultily worded," or is, in other words, a total misstatement of fact.

We reiterate our challenge to Mr. Justice Ker. He states in his letter of November 21, 1865, that the people of St. Ann have, as regards the administration of justice, a "real grievance;" that the magistrates of this parish are necessarily under the great and often paramount influence of their clerk ; that this officer is closely connected with the principal mercantile firm of the parish ; that this firm must be interested, directly or indirectly, in a very large proportion of the cases coming before the magistrates for adjudication; and that the people, on this account, neither can nor do believe in the possibility of obtaining justice in the parochial courts.

It is clear that no "real grievance" exists unless justice is perverted; and the paragraphs quoted state, with all the plainness possible, Mr. Ker's opinion of the manner in which, and the reason why, this perversion takes place, as well as its necessary result on the minds of our peasantry. Justice is said to be perverted in St. Ann's through the very great influence possessed by the clerk of the magistrates over the bench. This influence is corruptly exercised, because Mr. Solomon is connected

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with a mercantile firm interested in a very large proportion of the cases brought before the magistrates. The result is that "the mass of the people neither can nor do believe in the possibility of obtaining "justice in the parochial courts."

This is the plain meaning of his words, and we now again deliberately and solemnly declare these assertions to be "no less extravagantly untrue than they are mischievous and degrading." *It is untrue* that the people are "really" aggrieved by the administration of justice in our parochial courts. *It is untrue* that the firm with which our clerk is connected has an interest in any large proportion of the cases coming before us. *It is untrue* that Mr. Solomon exercises, or seeks to exercise, any improper influence over us. *It is untrue*, finally, that the mass of the people distrust our administration of justice.

Mr. Justice Ker will doubtless perceive that accusations so gross must, when thus flatly denied, either be supported by proofs, or deemed an unfounded slander: and he is bound, under the penalty of scorn and comtempt from all honest men, to make public the grounds of his accusation, the facts, if any, which he may himself have collected, the statements made by others in which he may have placed confidence, and the names of those from whom he may have received them.

We regret that we cannot concur with your Excellency in the hope that we should find satisfaction in any explanation such as that offered by Mr. Justice Ker; an explanation which, while relieving us from the charge of *wilfully* violating our oaths of office, leaves yet untouched, indeed repeats, no less grave an accusation against us than that of habitually perverting justice under the corrupt influence of our clerk.

We beg respectfully, but most distinctly, to affirm that we neither are, nor ought to be, satisfied under such circumstances. No more certain method can be devised of rousing an ignorant and excitable population to hatred and outrage than a public declaration from one of the judges of the land that they, the people, are systematically deprived of right and justice by the magistrates to whom they are forced to resort. Nor can it be expected that such a charge should cease to poison their minds, unless its falsehood be openly demonstrated, or its truth acknowledged by our removal from any judicial function. Neither can be done until Mr. Ker shall afford the statement we demand, and until that statement shall be made no magistrate of this parish can feel satisfaction.

We have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES ROYES, Custos,
on behalf of self and brother magistrates.

SIR, Governor's Secretary's Office, May 24, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of instant, and to transmit herewith, by desire of the Governor, a communication from the Hon. Mr. Ker, dated the 21st inst.

I have, &c.
Hon. Charles Royes. (Signed) EDWARD JORDON,
Governor's Secretary.

SIR, Strawberry Hill, near Gordon Town, May 21, 1866.

I HAVE had the honor of receiving the second petition of the Custos and Justices of the parish of St. Ann's, with his Excellency's request for my observations upon it. The petitioners remark:—

" We regret that we cannot concur with your Excellency in the hope that we should find satisfac-
" tion in any explanation such as that offered by Mr. Justice Ker; an explanation which, relieving
" us from the charge of wilfully violating our oaths of office, leaves yet untouched, indeed repeats, no
" less grave an accusation against us than that of habitually perverting justice under the corrupt
" influence of our clerk."

Upon which I would only observe, that the petitioners totally misaprehend my meaning. I never accused them of "habitually perverting justice under the influence of their clerk." I merely said that the administration of justice in St. Ann's did not possess the confidence of the labouring population. I shall be better understood, perhaps, if I remark, that I was discussing, not what the justices do, but what the people *think*. And they *think* (and, constituting nineteen twentieths of the population, their prejudice surely ought to go for something) that they cannot get impartial justice from tribunals *presided over by persons whose interests they believe to be antagonistic to their own*, and *advised by a clerk who is also clerk of a firm which has large mercantile transactions all over the parish*. If the petitioners cannot see the distinctness between my meaning, as now twice explained, and that which they attribute to me, it is not my fault.

The petitioners allege that the cases before the magistrate, in which the Messrs. Bravo are indirectly concerned "are of very rare occurrence." I cannot for an instant doubt that they implicitly believe this allegation; but if they expect me, or any other unprejudiced bystander, to believe it also, they are under a delusion which has wholly obscured their judgment. Do they mean to say that, of the scores of persons who from time to time must owe the Messrs. Bravo money, a large proportion do not annually appear as parties to, or directly or indirectly interested in some proceeding before the petty courts? And is the negro so blind as not to see that a decision in favour of these persons is circuitously an advantage to the firm? Is the black man of so innocent and unsuspicious a nature that he would, rather than not, attribute perfect freedom from bias to the justices and their official adviser under such circumstances? The question, I repeat, is not whether the suspicion is just (and it may be admitted once for all that it is without foundation), but simply whether it exists?

I had hoped that my explanation of the 8th of April would have been found satisfactory by the Custos and Justices; but, as the subject has again unexpectedly turned up, I take advantage of the opportunity to make a remark which I cannot regard as inapposite to the present occasion. I am not

connected by birth, marriage, or the ownership of land, with Jamaica. I have always, however, taken a warm and unaffected interest in its welfare, and in the prosperity more especially of the respected and all-important class to which the petitioners chiefly belong. My Underhill letter is only one of numerous proofs of this. And I assert, as the result of a long course of sustained and impartial observation, and using language already frequently employed by me, both orally and in writing, weeks before the Roya Commission was heard of, that peace never will return to this community until the administration of justice, as affecting the labouring classes, is placed upon a more satisfactory footing than at present. If the clerks of peace and clerks of the magistrates are any longer to execute their offices by deputy; if they are to set at nought the statutory provision requiring their residence in their parishes; if the humble suitor is to wait weeks and even months for the hearing of his case; if the unanimously passed "Appeal Regulation Amendment Act" of December 1863, increasing the already oppressive tax upon negro redress, by from 25 to 80 per cent, is any more to be taken as a specimen of the sort of legislation provided by the upper for the lower classes; if, I say, these things are to be tolerated any longer, then chronic discontent and disaffection will be the normal condition of society in this Island. But if, on the other hand, wise laws are passed, reforming all these abuses, I have no profounder conviction than that the innate respect which the inferior feels for the superior race will enable them too not only to live in mutual harmony together, but with results of prosperity to both surpassing the most sanguine expectations which can be formed.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) ALAN KER.

To His Excellency Sir HENRY KNIGHT STORKS, Governor-in-Chief, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY, Saint Ann, June 19, 1866.

WE beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Honourable E. Jordon's letter, No. 849, enclosing a letter from Mr. Justice Ker dated May 21, 1866.

It is much to be lamented that the words composing Mr. Ker's letter of November 24th, 1865, should convey, not to us alone, but to all who have read that production, a meaning so widely divergent from that which he now informs us they were intended to express. In that letter it is stated, that the people of Saint Ann's suffer a real grievance, the magistrates' clerk, who exercises a very great, sometimes a paramount influence over the bench, being a member of a firm interested in a very large proportion of the cases coming before the local courts; and that he, Mr. Ker himself, has received a very unfavourable impression of the administration of justice in this parish. This is a clear charge against the magistrates of acting, under the influence of their clerk, with deliberate partiality in the exercise of their office; and Mr. Ker himself admits, in his letter of April 9th, that his words "tend to convey "that impression." In that letter he withdraws the charge of *deliberate* partiality. The accusation then assumes this shape,—that, under the influence of our clerk, justice failed in Saint Ann's, although only through the imbecility, and not through the deliberate partiality, of the magistrates. He goes on, indeed, to say that he only meant to speak of the suspicions of injustice entertained in his opinion by the people, but we remarked that the charge of deliberate partiality is withdrawn explicitly, *and that charge alone.* We presumed that had it been intended to withdraw the rest of the accusation it also would have been done explicitly, and not left to mere implication. Moreover, in dealing with a writer having so unfortunate a propensity to convey in his words a meaning he never intended we were not inclined to accept as satisfactory any other explanation than one clear, distinct, and unmistakeable in its interpretation. Such an explanation appears to us to be contained in his letter of May 21st. His admissions there given clear both ourselves and our clerk, Mr. Solomon, from the imputations conveyed in the letter of November 21, 1865, and are, so far, satisfactory to us.

We have now to say a few words upon the serious influence for evil ascribed by Mr. Ker to Mr. Solomon's official position as our clerk.

Mr. Justice Ker's motive in writing his letter of November 24, 1865, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies now appears to have been the liberation of his soul, by laying before the highest authority under the Queen the "real grievance" weighing upon the people of Saint Ann's; this "real grievance" being, according to Mr. Ker's newest interpretation, not any injustice sustained by them, but a suspicion on his part that they suspected injustice. The suspicion of the people he now declares to be, once for all, without foundation. For himself suspecting the suspicion he gives no reason, except that in his opinion such suspicion must be. This happens to be precisely the same reason (if such it can be called) which he lays down for declaring most peremptorily, and in utter disregard of fact, that the Messrs. Bravo are interested in a very large proportion of the cases coming before us for adjudication. He can show no sort of ground for the assertion, at least, he has not done so since we declared its untruth, except that it must in his opinion be so, through, we presume, the primeval constitution of the universe and the eternal fitness of things. *We* speak from a personal knowledge of the facts, and we repeat, that neither have the Messrs. Bravo an interest in any large proportion of the cases coming before us, nor have our people any suspicion that justice is on that account perverted, though how long their confidence may continue, if judges acquire a habit of writing letters similar to that of Mr. Ker, it is impossible for us to conjecture.

The evil, then, which has flowed from Mr. Solomon's holding the post of magistrate's clerk in this parish would seem to be the disquieting of Mr. Ker by the apprehension of suspicions arising among the people, suspicions which he himself confesses would be unfounded, and which we assert not to exist.

In common with an innumerable multitude of other persons, Mr. Ker conceives himself to be in possession of a short and easy method of restoring Jamaica to prosperity. Being a lawyer, the learned judge, with much simplicity, though questionless in good faith, prescribes more law. We have, however, no intention of discussing Mr. Ker's peculiar opinions upon this subject.

As Mr. Ker's letter of November 24 has appeared in print and been the subject of much comment, it will be necessary for the vindication of our fair fame that this correspondence also should be made

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public. We lament the necessity, inasmuch as whatever tends in the eyes of the people to cast ridicule upon our judges weakens by so much the influence of law and relaxes the bonds of order, and the spectacle which this correspondence will unveil to the public gaze tends much rather to excite derision than to edification. A judge must here exhibit himself first deliberately laying before a high officer of state charges of a most infamous character against a whole body of magistrates; when taxed with stating that which is untrue, he will be next beheld withdrawing, as "faultily worded," the foulest portion of the accusation. When still further pressed with the untruthfulness of his charges, he will appear disclaiming that meaning which his words had conveyed to all who read them. Assertions which could by no possibility admit a double meaning will appear as made by him, not upon any foundation of fact, but simply upon his own notions of probability; and the "real grievance," in his eyes afflicting an unhappy people, will turn out to be nothing but the suspicion of a suspicion, the shadow of a shadow!

We have further respectfully to request that, as Mr. Ker's letter of November 21, 1865, was addressed to the Colonial Secretary, you will forward to the same official this correspondence also, which, so far as we are concerned, the present letter will close. For this purpose we beg to furnish copies in duplicate.

We have also respectfully to thank your Excellency for the attention our complaints have met with at your hands.

We have the honor to be
Your Excellency's most obedient servants,
CHARLES ROYES,
Custos, for self and brother magistrates.

SIR, Saint Ann's Bay, June 19, 1866.

Part 1st. Encl. 18 in No. 44.

I HAVE not ventured to trespass on the valuable time of his Excellency the Governor in respect to Mr. Justice Ker's letter published in the Blue Book referring to disturbances in Jamaica, and which has already been brought to the notice of his Excellency by the custos and magistrates of Saint Ann. As these gentlemen have now concluded their correspondence, I wish, as one of the parties libelled by Mr. Ker, to be permitted to supplement their remarks by stating that Mr. Ker was totally unmindful of the truth when he wrote the letter above referred to.

I have to solicit his Excellency's perusal of the accompanying letters from the Honourables P. Moncrieffe and Alexander Bravo, and the Reverends John Clark and B. Millard, Baptist missionaries, which will prove to his Excellency how untruthful Mr. Ker's statement is, and I have respectfully to solicit his Excellency to forward copies of this correspondence, at the same time as that from the custos and magistrates of Saint Ann, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and for this purpose I forward duplicates.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
MICHAEL SOLOMON.
Clerk of the Magistrates, Saint Ann.

The Hon. Edward Jordon, C.B.,
Governor's Secretary, Spanish Town.

Copy Letter from the Honourable PETER MONCRIEFFE to MICHAEL SOLOMON, Esq.

DEAR SIR, Friendship, April 13, 1866.

I OBSERVE that Mr. Justice Ker has stated in a letter to Mr. Jordan, dated 21st November 1865, that the parish of St. Ann has, for the reasons given, "long had a real grievance." That grievance is the fact that the confidential clerk and manager of the leading mercantile firm there, the Messrs. Bravo, "is at the same time clerk of the magistrates and deputy clerk of the peace."

It is strange that I who dwell in the parish, have been its chairman of quarter sessions, and to whom applications for advice are almost daily made by "the people," never heard of this grievance, which I believe to be purely imaginary. Complaints, indeed, are made that there is one law for the rich, another for the poor, but the complaint is made, not of the petty courts, but of the superior courts, in which have been pronounced some remarkable acquittals of persons in the higher grades of life.

I have been a chairman of quarter sessions in ten parishes, and ought to be competent to form a judgment how clerks of the peace should perform their duties. It is due to you to state that I always observed, and frequently pointed out to my coadjutors on the bench, your extraordinary exemption from bias against parties accused of crime, and the real skill with which you conducted causes evinced abilities of a high order in one not bred to the law.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours very truly,
(Signed) P. MONCRIEFFE.

Michael Solomons, Esq.,
Magistrates' Clerk, Deputy Clerk of the Peace.

Copy Letter from the Honourable ALEXANDER BRAVO to MICHAEL SOLOMON, Esq.

MY DEAR SIR, Kingston, May 12, 1866.

I CONFESS I was not a little astonished when I read Mr. Justice Ker's letter in the Blue Book addressed to Mr. Jordan under date the 21st November 1865, having more than once in conversation heard the said Judge Ker express himself in strong terms of commendation of you, not only as a gentlemen, but also as an able *locum tenens* of the important office of clerk of the peace of the parish of St. Ann's; and when I remarked to him the regret I experienced at his raising any objection to your

continuing to act for Mr. Allwood, he stated that he had done so purely on principle, because the law required you to possess certain qualifications which you did not.

You are at liberty to make whatever use you please of this letter, for it contains nothing but God's truth, and for that I am always ready to die. Nothing that Judge Ker has said or written can in the least injure you in public opinion, but it shows how much even a wise man may be mistaken, and may allow his zeal to outrun his discretion.

I do not believe that disaffection is more prevalent in St. Ann's than in any other part of the Island, and I am certain that your being the clerk of the magistrates and the deputy clerk of the peace has been and is a blessing to the parish and an advantage to the bench.

Few men in Jamaica have ever been less interested in cases brought before the magistrates in petty session than the Messrs. Bravo, and here again Mr. Justice Ker has fallen into a grievous error.

I do believe that the magistrates of St. Ann's place in you implicit confidence, and that nothing that can be said or written against you will in the least injure or shake that good opinion, the result of long experience in your honour, your integrity, and your intelligence; and with a sincere hope that your life may be spared to continue your course of usefulness,

Believe me, my dear Sir,
Yours very faithfully,
(Signed) ALEXANDRE BRAVO.

To Michael Solomon, Esq.
Deputy Clerk of the Peace and Magistrates' Clerk of the parish of St. Ann.

Copy Letter from the Reverends JOHN CLARK and BENJAMIN MILLARD, Baptist Missionaries.

DEAR SIR, Saint Ann's, June 7, 1866.

IN the recently published Blue Book respecting the state of Jamaica we are surprised to see, in a letter from one of our respected judges, the Hon. Alan Ker, a statement to the effect that your holding the office of deputy clerk of the peace and magistrates' clerk, while you are connected with the house of Messrs. Bravo, is a grievance and interferes with the impartial administration of justice in this parish.

From our long knowledge of you and of the manner in which you have discharged the offices you hold we cannot forbear expressing our opinion that his Honor, we are sure unintentionally, has fallen into a serious error, which we believe further inquiry will correct, and that so far from justice being miscarried under your influence, you have striven to act with the greatest impartiality, and that your strenuous efforts have been put forth to obtain justice for all parties whose cases have come before the magistrates for adjudication.

A large portion of the labourers and small settlers of this parish are, as you are aware, under our pastoral care. When they think themselves aggrieved they are in the habit of coming to us with their complaints, but during the many years you have discharged the office of magistrates' clerk they have ever borne testimony to your courtesy and kindness, your efforts to prevent unnecessary or vexatious litigation, and your readiness to advise them as to the course they should pursue to obtain justice when they have been wronged.

While you justly enjoy the esteem of the higher classes, you have, we are sure, the confidence and respect of the poorer members of the community, who regard you as one of their firmest friends.

Trusting that your life will be long spared, and your efforts to promote the welfare of all around you, may be crowned with God's blessing,

We remain, dear Sir,
Respectfully and truly yours,
(Signed) JOHN CLARK, Baptist Missionary,
Brown's Town.
BENJAMIN MILLARD, Baptist Missionary.
St. Ann's Bay.

To Michael Solomon, Esq.,
Deputy Clerk of the Peace,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 22.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 135.)

King's House, June 23, 1866.

SIR, (Received, July 13, 1866.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 151,* of the 15th ultimo, and to acquaint you that I have drawn on the officer in charge of the Treasury chest for the sum of 250*l.* 6*s.*, being the proceeds of property seized by the troops during the recent disturbances. * Page 103.

I have placed this sum to the credit of the Colonial Treasury, and it will be appropriated as I recommended and you have approved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

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No. 23.

No. 23.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 143.)

King's House, July 9, 1866.
(Received, July 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 18th June, marked Confidential, referring to the instructions contained in your Despatch No. 173,* of even date, and to acquaint you that after having communicated your Despatch to Mr. Eyre I have published it in the Colony, together with the Report and Appendix of the Royal Commission.

*Vide Papers presented 18th June 1866, Page 3.

Mr. Eyre and his family propose to leave Jamaica in the mail steamer for England on the 10th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have learnt that Mr. Eyre has postponed his departure for England for the present.

H. K. S.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 24.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 144.)

King's House, July 9, 1866.
(Received, July 30, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to transmit for your consideration a letter to your address which has been placed in my hands by Mr. Eyre.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. K. STORKS.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. in No. 24.

Enclosure in No. 24.

SIR,

Kingston, Jamaica, July 6, 1866.

I HAD the honor to receive this day, through Sir Henry Storks, a copy of your Despatch No. 173, of the 18th June (accompanied by the Report of and Evidence taken before the Royal Commission) announcing the decision of Her Majesty's Government, that I am not to be replaced in the Government lately held by me, and from which I was temporarily suspended during and for the purpose of facilitating the labours of the Commissioners.

I have not yet been able to read either the Report or the accompanying Appendix, but I think it right at once to say that however much I may regret that my long career in the public service (for I have held Her Majesty's commissions as Lieut.-Governor or Governor since December 1846) should be abruptly brought to a close under the disapproval and censure of the Colonial Minister, that regret is greatly lessened by the reflection that, however able or impartial the parties may be by whom my conduct has been inquired into and adjudicated upon, it is impossible that persons imperfectly acquainted with the negro character, with the country, and with the circumstances which surrounded me during the continuance of martial law, can judge adequately or justly, after the event, of the necessity or propriety of the action I found it imperative to take during a great emergency.

I have only to add that in retiring to private life I carry with me the consciousness that I have always endeavoured to do my duty faithfully as a servant of the Crown, and the conviction that in doing it on the late occasion I saved a noble colony from anarchy and ruin.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient, humble servant,
E. EYRE.

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P.
&c., &c., &c.

No. 25. JAMAICA.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 149.) King's House, July 20, 1866. No. 25.
(Received, August 13, 1866.)

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 179,* of the 25th ultimo, transmitting copies of a letter addressed to you by Mr. F. Vinen, and of the answer which you caused to be returned to it. * Page 104.

2. In obedience to your instructions, I have to report that the Royal Commissioners did not inquire specially into the case of Mr. Vinen, nor did they think it necessary to make any report on it, nor on the claims of others of a similar character who sought compensation for alleged injuries or unjust imprisonment during martial law.

3. Mr. Vinen was arrested in good faith by the authorities of Jamaica, and on reasonable suspicion, as an intimate friend of Mr. G. W. Gordon's, who was considered to be the prime mover, if not the author, of the disturbances which took place in St. Thomas-in-the-East.

4. I am of opinion that Mr. Vinen has no claim to compensation on account of the proceedings of the colonial authorities towards him during the disturbances.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 26. No. 26.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF CARNARVON.

Separate. King's House, Jamaica, August 6, 1866.
(Received August 29, 1866.)

MY LORD,

WITH reference to the Despatch of your Lordship's predecessor, No. 173,* of the 18th of June, by which I was instructed to cause careful investigation to be made into those cases of civilians which appear to require it, with a view to such further proceedings as may be requisite and just, I have the honor to report that I have put myself into communication with the Attorney-General on the subject. Mr. Heslop at once proceeded to consider the evidence adduced before the Royal Commission, and has submitted to me a minute, a copy of which I transmit for your Lordship's information. The course which the Attorney-General proposes to follow appears to me the only one open to him, and will no doubt be approved and carried out by the order of my successor. *Vide paper presented June 1866.

I have been very careful as to granting certificates under the Indemnity Act, and have only given one, in confirmation of a certificate given by Mr. Eyre to a custos against whom an action has been brought for false imprisonment, the custos having acted under the written order of Mr. Eyre.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. (Signed) H. K. STORKS.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure in No. 26. Encl. in No. 26.

In Re Martial Law, Jamaica, 1865.

5th August, 1866.

THE very large discretionary power vested in the Governor by the Secretary of State (Mr. Cardwell's) despatch fortunately need not, and indeed cannot, be determinately exercised till full opportunity has been afforded for consideration of the evidence given before the recent Royal Commission.

The scope of that Commission was quite other than directly judicial, or even accusatory. For instance, it was not necessary under it to ascertain the persons who had been or might be supposed to have been subjected to undue or excessive punishment for alleged offences; and so, the minutes of evidence taken by the Commission do not, in most of such cases, disclose enough to frame indictments on without further inquiry with that object.

As there was no accusation of crime before the Royal Commissioners, to which any person was entitled of right to make answer, or which to question, the evidence taken then and before them would not be available in any prosecution for offences which it may be eventually thought right thoroughly to investigate; even if the proof of such evidence having been given could otherwise be established than by the mere printed report of that evidence.

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I would propose, with the sanction of superior authority,

First. To investigate magisterially the details of the more serious cases, in the presence of accused persons, and according to the ordinary course of law.

Secondly. To prosecute such of them as may afford reasonable grounds for expecting a just conviction.

I here refer to the acts of civilians alone, I being concerned only with them.

I have had opportunity to read nearly one half of the copious evidence, and have used it. No bill of indictment can be preferred before the 8th October next; and in the meantime, preliminary investigation can be made for judicial proceedings, based on the information given before the Royal Commission.

The case against Provost-Marshal Ramsay must certainly be put in train for trial, whether upon issue of law or fact; but it will be for the decision of His Excellency the Governor whether others, how many and whom shall, consistently with the qualification of Mr. Secretary Cardwell's despatch, be prosecuted to judicial determination.

I think the stipendiary magistrate in the immediate neighbourhood of the places of outbreak would best be able, from local knowledge, and an absence of local personal interest, to conduct the necessary preliminary examinations; but I am bound to do this myself if His Excellency should consider it more expedient.

(Signed) ALEXANDER HESLOP,
Attorney-General.

No. 27.

No. 27.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

Separate.

King's House, August 6, 1866.
(Received, August 29, 1866.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honor to acquaint your Lordship that Sir John Peter Grant arrived at Kingston yesterday, and was this day sworn in as Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of Jamaica and its dependencies with the usual ceremonial.

I am happy to be able to report to your Lordship that perfect tranquillity prevails throughout the Island of Jamaica, and persons of all parties seem disposed to afford the new Government every support and assistance.

In terminating an arduous and difficult duty I indulge in the hope that my proceedings will have met with the Queen's gracious approval and with that of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS,
Lieut.-General.

No. 28.

No. 28.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B., to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

Separate.

At Sea, August 10, 1866.
(Received, August 29, 1866.)

MY LORD,

* Supra.

IN my despatch marked Separate,* of the 6th inst., I had the honor to report to your Lordship that Sir John P. Grant had assumed the Government of Jamaica on that day with the usual ceremonial. I have now to acquaint your Lordship that I embarked at Kingston yesterday on board the packet, and am now on my way to England.

I have the honor to enclose, for your Lordship's information, two addresses which have been presented to me, together with my replies thereto.

The first of these addresses is from the precinct of Saint Catherine (in which Spanish Town is situated) and the neighbouring parishes, and the other from the citizens of Kingston.

I was extremely gratified by the warm and friendly feeling displayed towards me by all classes, both in Spanish Town and Kingston, when I took my departure, and by the expressions of goodwill which were uttered on all sides.

It is a great satisfaction to be able to report to your Lordship that perfect tranquillity everywhere prevailed in Jamaica when I gave up the government, and that a good spirit seems to exist amongst all classes. The crisis through which the Colony has passed has been severe, and the dangers overcome have been very serious.

It is to be hoped that the experience acquired from sad disasters will not be lost, but will have a salutary effect on all classes and all colours.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, &c &c. &c.

(Signed) H. K. STORKS,
Lieut.-General.

Enclosure 1 in No. 28.

To His Excellency Sir HENRY KNIGHT STORKS, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the magistrates, ministers, freeholders, and other inhabitants of the parish and district of St. Catherine, approach your Excellency with sentiments of great respect and esteem, to express our deep and sincere regret at your Excellency's approaching departure from the government of Jamaica.

We, indeed, deplore your Excellency's relinquishment of the high office of Governor of the Colony and its dependencies at the present time, especially in the apprehension, from the intimate knowledge your Excellency has acquired of the state of the country and the character of its people, added to other considerations, that no one is likely to be so well qualified as your Excellency to inaugurate so efficiently the new constitution to be introduced by the parent Government.

At a time when the bonds of union in the several relations of society were dissolved, and disorganization, political and social, in their most appalling forms, threatened us on every hand, your Excellency arrived amongst us in the twofold capacity of Governor and Royal Commissioner, being specially deputed to the latter office by our most gracious Sovereign from numerous others of Her Majesty's public functionaries, for the high and responsible duty of inquiring into the "origin, nature, and consequences" of the late disastrous outbreak in the parish of St. Thomas-in-the-East.

While we cannot but admire the wisdom, justice, and discretion with which your Excellency has administered the affairs of our local government during the short period of your Excellency's residence among us, characterized as it has also been by such a wise admixture of mildness and decision, your Excellency's untiring devotion to the great object of your embassy, added to your high integrity of purpose as President of the Royal Commission, claim our most grateful acknowledgments, and will, we are persuaded, secure for your Excellency the public commendation of our most gracious Majesty the Queen, and of the Parliament and people of England. Commendation, we feel assured, will be accorded to your Excellency by the wisest and most philanthropic men throughout the civilized world, whatever difference of opinion may exist in the minds of some of the more ardent advocates of justice and humanity in relation to some of the conclusions of the Royal Commissioners in their published Report.

As already intimated, your Excellency, on your arrival, found the Island in a state of distraction—the vessel of the state stranded and well-nigh abandoned to the conflict of the elements—your Excellency firmly grasped the helm, extricated her from her perilous condition, and restored her to the bosom of the deep. We now require the same skilful hand to navigate the vessel onward to a happy and prosperous intercourse with the mother country and the markets of the world.

While we thus express our high estimate of your Excellency's qualifications as a ruler, under the peculiarly delicate and trying circumstances in which you have been placed in relation to the discharge of your executive and judicial duties, we cannot but notice those of a more personal and social character, as we are persuaded they have had in their exercise no small share in reconciling differences and in promoting future harmony and goodwill. We refer to your Excellency's affability and kindness towards all classes, your discouragement of all party interests, and your entire exemption from all bias and prejudice as to colour, creed, and social position.

We repeat that we deeply regret your Excellency's departure at this still, in some particular respects, unsettled state of our social and political affairs. As, however, your Excellency gives us no hope of your continued sojourn in our midst, we desire to regard your departure as an ordination of Divine Providence, and can only trust that, as an arrangement of the same Great Disposer of Events, the pilot appointed to succeed your Excellency may prove himself sufficiently skilful, now that the storm is past, to avoid the shoals and quicksands that may be yet ahead.

Before concluding this address we beg to avail ourselves of the opportunity it presents (the only one likely to occur) of testifying, which we hereby do, our most cordial thanks to Her Majesty and the Government for instituting the Royal Commission at the request of interested individuals in this country and the friends of justice and humanity in England.

Again sincerely thanking your Excellency for your efforts for the general good of the country, and congratulating ourselves for the measure of success with which those efforts have been crowned, we unite in expressing our hearty desire and prayer that the blessing of Almighty God may be with your Excellency wherever your Sovereign may command your services to add to the peace or stability of Her empire and to the lustre of Her crown. At last, in simple reliance on the mercy of God, through the merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, may you be rewarded with perfect and everlasting honour and happiness in the kingdom of the King of Kings.

With the sentiments and feelings thus expressed, we bid your Excellency an affectionate farewell.

Hon. Richard Hill, senior resident magistrate of the precinct; Hon. C. H. Jackson, late Speaker of the Assembly; W. T. March, J.P.; Robert Russell, J.P.; R. Osborne, J.P.; Rev. J. M. Phillippo, senior Baptist missionary; J. C. Phillippo, J.P.; J. C. McAunuff, J.P.; J. P. Clarke, J.P.; Wm. Berry, J.P.; I. Levy, J.P.; George Phillippo, Barrister-at-Law; Manly Abrahams, J.P.; William Claydon, Baptist missionary; Alex. Alexander, J.P.; S. Rodrigues, J.P.; Rev. John Clarke, Baptist missionary; P. Harrison, J.P.; Andrew Lewis, J.P.; James Lee Brodbelt, M.D. Edin.; Jas. Gayleard, Attorney-at-Law; Richard S. Fonseca, Attorney-at-Law; John F. March, Attorney-at-Law; Edwin K. Phillippo, vestryman; Rev. Richard Watson, Baptist missionary; George F. Henriques, vestryman; W. Q. Bell, vestryman; W. L. Young, vestryman; S. Magnus, vestryman; W. N. Greensword; Col. Dues; E. G. Levy, Esq.; J. M. Facy, Esq.; James Emanuel, Esq.; Charles Gauntlett, Esq.; W. C. McCalla, Esq.; E. A. Henriques, Esq.; T. J. Bernal, Esq.; W. T. Clarkson, Esq.; Nathaniel Lopez, Esq.; John Fonseca, Esq.; Henry James, Esq.; Geo. F. Judah, Esq.; G. S. Lyon, Esq.; R. Mitchell, Esq., Attorney-at-Law; A. Abrahams, Esq.; G. O'Sullivan, Esq.; and 2,642 others, making a total of 2,688.

Jamaica.

To the Magistrates, Ministers, Freeholders, and other Inhabitants of the parish of St. Catherine.

Reverend Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

Accept my sincere thanks for your address. If I experience great satisfaction at the flattering terms in which you allude to my administration of the Government of Jamaica, I am no less sensible of the kindness and warm feeling towards myself which have dictated this address.

It is most gratifying to me to find that my efforts to restore harmony amongst all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, to maintain order which under unhappy circumstances had been broken and disturbed, and to carry on this Government under peculiar difficulties, have met with your approval.

The important duty entrusted to me by our Gracious Sovereign was not only one of inquiry and administration, but especially a mission of reconciliation to contending parties, and of peace and goodwill to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

If I have been successful in the objects of my mission, I am mainly indebted to the cordial and kind assistance I have received from all; for not from one class or from one colour, but from all, without distinction, I have met with support, good feeling, and a just appreciation of the difficulties in which I was placed.

I augur a prosperous future for Jamaica. There is much to do before the machine of government is got into working order, and before all classes participate in the advantages to be derived from a just and impartial administration, and from the prosperity which follows confidence and security in good institutions.

To accomplish the great work of inaugurating good government and of restoring prosperity no one is more fitted than the eminent man who is now Governor of Jamaica. A long and distinguished career in Her Majesty's Indian possessions, embracing the administration of the great province of Bengal, in which his Excellency obtained the approbation of Her Majesty and of Her Majesty's Government, and secured the confidence and goodwill of those whom he governed, pointed out Sir John Grant as eminently qualified to fill the responsible and difficult position which he has lately assumed. But to be able to do all the good he desires, and to secure the prosperity and welfare of the Colony, he requires that the law should be obeyed, that order and tranquillity should be maintained, and that he should receive the confidence and support of all classes. I am persuaded that what is required will be freely given, and that all will unite in assisting him to perform his arduous and responsible duties.

It now only remains for me to bid you, my kind friends, farewell. I shall ever retain a grateful recollection of your kindness, and shall be always too ready to devote my best energies to promote the interests and prosperity of Jamaica.

I sincerely pray and trust that the Almighty may extend to you and yours all prosperity and happiness.

H. K. Storks, Lieut.-General.

Encl. 2 in No. 28.

Enclosure 2 in No. 28.

Address presented by the Citizens of Kingston.

To His Excellency Sir Henry Knight Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., &c.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned citizens of Kingston, deem it due to your Excellency, prior to your departure from the Island to re-assume your exalted position in Malta, not to permit the present favourable opportunity to pass by without cordially expressing our gratitude to our Gracious Majesty the Queen for having selected your Excellency to guide the destinies of our country in one of the most trying periods of its existence.

That you have fully realized the well-founded expectations of the British Government in the pleasing circumstance that you have faithfully fulfilled your onerous as well as difficult and delicate mission, and earned golden opinions from all parties, are such accomplished facts that we cannot but take note of them, and feel gratified in their contemplation.

Your Excellency's worth has been exhibited in the firmness of character which you have brought to bear upon matters requiring such a necessary qualification, whilst your rigid impartiality has caused your claim to the confidence of all classes to be fully acknowledged. Under such circumstances, it had been our fondly-cherished hope that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies would have made such arrangements as would secure your valuable services, for at least the usual period, at the helm of our somewhat chequered affairs.

Were we fortunate enough to obtain those services, the indications of your Excellency's character to which we have referred, the extraordinary facilities which you have experienced for acquiring a sound knowledge of the condition of the country and its various requirements, the certainty that you would strive to manifest yourself as a benign embodiment and exponent of British feelings and principles, would specially qualify you to inaugurate the blessed reign of such moral, religious, educational, social, and political levers as your ample experience has taught you to be necessary to raise our fallen Island from its present prostrate condition.

But as your Excellency must leave us, and at an early period too, the sorrowful duty of expressing the doleful term farewell must, however reluctantly, be at once performed. We shall always look back to the brief time of your being Governor of Jamaica with unfeigned pleasure and satisfaction, knowing that you did your best to promote the welfare of all classes.

In conclusion, we pray that the Great God and Father of all will grant your Excellency a lengthened tenure of life and health to enjoy the earthly honours which your high professional and administrative abilities entitle you to receive at the hands of our Gracious Sovereign, and that, finally,

on another stage of existence, He will dignify you with those celestial honours, of which, in consequence of their intrinsic perpetuity, neither death nor any external circumstances will have any power to bereave you.

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's most faithful servants.

Kingston, August 7, 1866. Signed by 2,231 persons.

REPLY to Address presented by the Citizens of Kingston.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM deeply sensible of the honour conferred on me by this expression of your approbation of my services in Jamaica. When I undertook the mission confided to me by our Gracious Sovereign, I felt and appreciated the position I had accepted, and the delicate and onerous nature of the duties devolving on me. But I had confidence in the generous feeling and cordial support of my fellow-subjects in the Colony; and I have not been deceived.

But, gentlemen, my mission to Jamaica not only involved duties connected with the high office of Governor, but was eminently one of reconciliation and goodwill towards all classes of Her Majesty's subjects.

If I have been able to achieve in any degree the objects for which I came, I am principally indebted to the good sense and the good feeling of all, without distinction; and I am grateful for the generous assistance and loyal co-operation which I have received.

Gentlemen, I have confidence in the future of Jamaica. The changes which have taken place in the institutions of the country require time, patience, and forbearance to work and consolidate; but I feel assured that confidence and security will attend good government, and prosperity will follow in their wake.

To achieve this great end all must contribute, and I confidently expect that the same support and loyal co-operation which you have generously given to me will be extended to the distinguished man who has lately assumed the government of this fine country. If so, his success is secured. For myself, gentlemen, it only remains for me to bid you farewell, and to assure you that I shall ever retain a grateful recollection of Jamaica, and that my best energies will always be devoted to promote the interests and welfare of the Colony.

I beg you again to accept my warmest thanks for your kindness, on the recollection of which I shall ever dwell with gratitude and pride.

H. K. STORKS, Lieut.-General.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

No. 1.

No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Sir H. K. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 66.)

SIR, Downing Street, February 8, 1866.

HER Majesty's Government are desirous to receive from you a report upon the Act passed by the legislature of Jamaica, 29 Vict. Cap. 3, "to enable the Governor of "this Island to declare martial law over the whole or any portions of the Island by and "with the advice of the Privy Council."

If it should ever unhappily become necessary again to resort to martial law the circumstances of the moment must be extremely urgent, and it would doubtless not be right that the statutory authority for proclaiming martial law should be vested in a body which it might be difficult, or impossible, to assemble. But, on the other hand, Her Majesty's Government would be most unwilling to sanction any measure which would in any degree diminish the securities hitherto existing for due consideration in taking so serious a step. They wish you to report how far this Act supplies, in your judgment, the best available mode of reconciling these conflicting considerations, under the present actual circumstances of the Colony.

They take this opportunity of repeating their trust that no occasion will arise for placing any portion of the Island under such a proclamation, and their confidence that nothing but the most urgent and manifest danger to the community will induce you to have recourse to martial law. Should such a necessity occur, care must be taken that so soon as it shall be removed by the suppression of the disturbances, all measures of military severity shall be checked at the earliest possible moment, and an immediate return be had to the ordinary course of legal inquiry, and of the judicial trial and punishment of offenders.

I have &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 2.

No. 2.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 68.)

SIR, Downing Street, February 9, 1866.

WITH reference to Governor Eyre's Despatch No. 326,* of the 8th December, respecting the publication by him of an extract from a private letter of Colonel Whitfield's, I transmit to you, for Mr. Eyre's information, the enclosed copy of a letter from the War Department on the subject.

* Vide Papers presented Feb. 1866, Part I., page 223.

I have no doubt that Mr. Eyre will admit that the proceeding in question is one which ought not to be adopted under any ordinary circumstances, or indeed in any circumstances in which it was practicable to communicate in time with the General Officer in command of the Forces.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure No. 2.

SIR, War Office, January 29, 1866.

I HAVE laid before the Secretary of State for War your letter of the 9th instant, with its enclosures from the Governor of Jamaica, transmitting copies of a correspondence between himself and Major General O'Connor in regard to the publication by Mr. Eyre of an extract of a private letter addressed to him by Colonel Whitfield.

Earl de Grey having caused these papers to be forwarded to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, has received a reply from the Military Secretary to his Royal Highness, a copy of which is transmitted herewith for the information of Mr. Secretary Cardwell.

I have, &c.

Sir Frederic Rogers, Bart., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

SIR, Horse Guards, January 19, 1866.

I HAVE laid before the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief your letter of 13th instant, with its enclosure from the Colonial Office, transmitting copies of a correspondence between the Governor of Jamaica and M. General O'Connor, relative to the publication by the Governor of an extract of a private letter, addressed to him on the 21st November last by Colonel Whitfield; and in returning these papers, I am directed to request you will acquaint Earl de Grey that his Royal Highness is desirous that Mr. Cardwell's attention should be drawn to the fact, that it was a most unusual course for a Governor to make use of a private letter sent to him by a military officer subordinate to the Major General, and that although there may have been some reasons for doing so, under the existing circumstances, his Royal Highness cannot but regret that the General was not made aware of the Governor's intention, and shown the letter in question before it was made use of as a public document.

His Royal Highness would suggest, for Earl de Grey's consideration, whether, under the circumstances of the case, Mr. Cardwell might not be requested to make a communication to the above purport to the Governor, or to Sir H. Storks, for Mr. Eyre's information.

I have, &c.

The Under Secretary of State, War Office.

(Signed) W. F. FORSTER.

No. 3.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 70.)

SIR, Downing Street, February 15, 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from the War Office, enclosing a statement showing that the sum of 250*l.* 6*s.* has been paid into the Commissariat chest as the proceeds of sales of property taken during the late disturbances.

I request that you will furnish me with your report on this proceeding.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Enclosure No. 3.

SIR, War Office, February 5, 1866.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the consideration of Mr. Secretary Cardwell, the accompanying copy of a statement which has been received at this office from the Deputy Commissary-General in Jamaica, showing that the sum of 250*l.* 6*s.* has been paid into the commissariat chest, being the proceeds of the sale of coffee and horses captured during the late disturbances in that Island.

I have, &c.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Signed) DOUGLAS GALTON.

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1. Required to be received into the the treasury chest the sum of 250*l.* 6*s.* being proceeds of sale of horses &c. captured by Colonel Hobbs at Monkland.

(Signed) J. F. HOBBS, Col. and Lieut.-Col. Commanding 2/6th Regiment.

Newcastle, 15th Dec., 1865.

Head Quarters, Kingston Jamaica, November 13, 1865.

2. The proceeds on the sale of captured property clearly accounted for must be paid into the military chest until orders are received from the Secretary of State for War for its disposal.

(Signed) LUKE SMYTHE O'CONNOR, C.B., Lieut.-General Commanding Troops.

3. Statement of cash received, being for rebel property captured by a detachment 2/6th regiment under command of Col. Hobbs at Monkland.

	£	s.	d.
To 48 bags coffee picked on rebel property by order of Col. Hobbs	38	2	0
Amount taken from a rebel prisoner	5	3	0
	43	5	0
Deduct expenses picking coffee	10	6	0
Amount to be paid into treasury chest	32	19	0

(Signed) J. T. F. HOBBS, Col. and Lieut.-Col. Commanding 2/6th Regiment.

JAMAICA.

List of Captured Horses, Mules, and Donkeys sold at Newcastle by Order of Col. Hobbs during the Month of October 1865.

Description of Horses or Mules.	Purchaser.	Amount. £	s.	d.
4 Mules and 2 horses in lot	Mr. Lazarus	48	0	0
1 Grey horse	Drummer Standen	5	0	0
1 Bay colt	Mr. Hyde	3	0	0
1 Bay mare	Sergeant Taylor	4	0	0
1 Chestnut horse	Sergeant Clery	5	0	0
1 Bay colt	Patrick Delaney	1	0	0
1 Bay mare	Sergeant Fairghnan	3	0	0
1 Mule	Mr. Willis	8	0	0
1 Mule	Mr. Murray	7	0	0
1 Grey horse	Drummer Archer	4	0	0
1 Bay horse	Sergeant Tippetts	4	10	0
1 Dun colt	Sergeant Marsh	2	0	0
1 Bay colt	Sergeant Fairghnan	1	10	0
1 Iron grey mare	Mr. Lazarus	4	0	0
1 Bay horse	Mr. Tyfe	3	0	0
1 Mule	Mr. Bolton	6	0	0
1 Grey mare	Sergeant Conolly	3	10	0
1 Bay colt	Mr. Le Franc	2	10	0
1 Bay horse	Sergeant Conolly	2	10	0
1 Mule	Mr. Lazarus	7	10	0
1 Bay horse	Mr. Turner	1	10	0
1 Mule	Mr. Fielding	10	0	0
1 Dark grey horse	Mr. Lazarus	3	10	0
1 Bay mare	Sergeant Conolly	4	0	0
1 Bay entire horse	Mr. Lazarus	3	0	0
1 Mare and mule colt	Mr. Bolton	4	10	0
1 Bay horse	Mr. Savage	2	0	0
1 Grey horse	Private Kirby	1	0	0
1 Grey horse	Mr. Lazarus	2	10	0
1 Dark grey horse	Mr. Lazarus	2	10	0
1 Grey Mare	Mr. Bolton	5	0	0
1 Roan horse	Private Jones	0	10	0
1 Mule	Mr. Night	6	0	0
1 Donkey	Lieut. Roworth	1	0	0
1 „	Mr. Bolton	0	15	0
1 „	Private Hunt	1	0	0
1 „	Private Stokes	1	0	0
1 „	Sergeant Thompson	1	0	0
1 „	Mr. Connolly	0	15	0
1 „	Mr. Stapely	1	0	0
1 „	Mr. Buckly	1	0	0
2 Horses	Mr. Connolly	5	0	0
1 Mule	Mr. Bolton	10	0	0
1 Black mule	Ensign Taylor	8	0	0
1 Brown Mule	Captain Field	8	0	0
1 Grey pony	Mr. Bolton	5	10	0
1 Bay filley	Sergeant Faughnan	3	0	0
1 Grey horse	Lieut. Roworth	8	0	0
1 Bay bony	Lieut. Hall	8	0	0
1 Mule	Mr. Stonaghan	5	0	0
	Total	239	0	0

Deduct:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Paid Mr. Patterson for feeding rebel horses captured				6	16	0
„ Mr. Lascelles for bridle and saddle				3	12	9
„ Mr. Bowen for a mule				9	0	0
„ Capt. Field for vet. surgeon's charges for atten. on a mule				1	0	0
„ Mr. Bolton for conveying money to Messrs Patterson				1	0	0
„ Mr. Kelly for recapturing a mule				0	5	0
					21	13	0
	32	19	0			
	217	7	0		217	7	0
Total	250	6	0			

(Signed) J. F. HOBBS, Col. and Lieut.-Col. Commanding 2/6th Regt.

Received and credited in cash accounts for December quarter, 1865.

(Signed) HORACE W. TRAVERS, A. C. G., Mil. Acct.
(Signed) A. C. HALL, Lieut. 6th Regiment.

No. 4.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 77.)

SIR, Downing Street, February 16, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to enclose a copy of an address which I have received to-day from the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, with the request that the considerations therein set forth may be laid before you.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Enclosure in No. 4. Encl. in No. 4.

27, New Broad Street, E.C.,
February 16, 1866.

To the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

SIR,

I AM instructed by the Committee to forward you the accompanying memorial, and to say that the committee are anxious it should be sent out to Sir Henry Storks by the present mail, if you think well to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CHAMEROVZOW.

To the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

SIR,

IT is with extreme reluctance the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society venture to trespass upon your time; but they feel impelled to call your attention to certain circumstances in connexion with the Royal Commission of Inquiry in Jamaica which appear to them calculated seriously to threaten the impartiality of its proceedings.

The appointment of Captain Hunt, late Aide-de-Camp to Governor Eyre, as Military Secretary to Sir Henry Storks, seemed to your memorialists open to grave objection; but the last mail brings the intelligence that a Mr. Lynch has been selected to fulfil the office of solicitor to the Royal Commission. This Mr. Lynch is the brother-in-law of Mr. Ramsay, who exercised the functions of Provost Marshal during the prevalence of martial law, and is represented to have been chiefly responsible for the indiscriminate floggings and hangings without trial which took place at Morant Bay.

The Committee respectfully submit that Mr. Lynch's family connexion with Mr. Ramsay would seem to render him a most unsuitable person to hold an office so important as that of solicitor to the Royal Commission, an officer upon whom devolves the duty of preparing the evidence to be laid before it.

The Committee would also submit that the Executive Committee, namely, the Honorable Messrs. Westmoreland and Hosack and Dr. Hamilton, who acted under Governor Eyre, continue in power, although deeply implicated in the arbitrary proceedings which took place under martial law.

It is obvious that, with the late Governor's Aide-de-Camp acting as the present Governor's Military Secretary, with Mr. Lynch, the ex-Provost Marshal's brother-in-law, as solicitor to the Royal Commission, and with the Executive Committee of the late Governor in the full exercise of that almost absolute authority which they possessed under his rule, and having at command the funds of the Island, a combination exists which there is great danger may be employed to defeat the objects of the Commission, and appears to deprive it of that character of impartiality which the Committee are sure Her Majesty's Government desire it should possess.

The Committee suggest that the remedy for this undesirable state of things would seem to rest, under present circumstances, with his Excellency Sir Henry Storks; and the petition of your memorialists is, that the considerations set forth in this address be laid before his Excellency.

On behalf of the Committee,
(Signed) JOSEPH COOPER,
Chairman of Committee.
L. A. CHAMEROVZOW,
Secretary.

27, New Broad Street, E.C.,
16th February 1866.

JAMAICA.

No. 5.

No. 5.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 79.)

SIR, Downing Street, February 17, 1866.

* Page 62. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 5,* of the 20th of January, as to the payment of the expenses of the witnesses summoned to give evidence before the Royal Commission.

Her Majesty's Government recognize with satisfaction the alacrity which the Legislature of Jamaica has shown in facilitating the inquiry of the Commission, and they are sensible of the pressure which the occurrences that have rendered it necessary have entailed upon the finances of the Colony; but they feel that the costs of the witnesses before the Commission could not properly be charged upon Imperial funds, and they trust that they will not prove very considerable in proportion to the benefit which the Colony will derive from the inquiry.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 6.

No. 6.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 97.)

SIR, Downing Street, March 13, 1866.

* Page 64. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 19,* of 5th February.

I approve of the notification which you have issued for the purpose of allaying the excitement and bad feeling prevailing in several of the parishes in Jamaica, and I am glad to learn that it has had a salutary effect.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 127.)

SIR, Downing Street, April 13, 1866.

* Page 65. WITH reference to your Despatch No. 20*, of the 5th February, I have to acquaint you that the Secretary of State for War has intimated to his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief that the garrison of Jamaica should in his opinion be maintained for some time to come at the strength recommended by you, viz., of one white and one black regiment.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 8. No. 8.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 135.)

SIR, Downing Street, April 26, 1866.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 62*, of 16th March, reporting the refusal of the people at "Hartlands" to obey an order of the Supreme Court for the survey of the estate, and the measures taken to enforce the authority of the law. * Page 66.

I approve the course adopted by you on this occasion.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 9. No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 151.)

SIR, Downing Street, May 15, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 71*, of 24th March, and, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State for War, to convey to you my approval of the course which you propose to adopt in the disposal of the sum of 250*l.* 6*s.* which has been paid into the Commissariat Chest as the proceeds of the sales of property seized by the troops during the recent disturbances. * Page 69.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.
&c. &c. &c.

P.S.—The officer in charge of the Treasury chest has been instructed to honor your draft upon the chest for this sum.

No. 10. No. 10.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 156.)

SIR, Downing Street, May 25, 1866.

I HAVE received your Despatch No. 94*, of the 20th of April, and I have to convey to you my approval of the removal of Mr. William Pitt Kirkland from the commission of the peace for St. Thomas-in-the-East, and of his dismissal from the office of collector of dues, for having authorized and sanctioned acts of barbarity and illegal cruelty in the punishment of persons arrested during the disturbances in Jamaica. * Page 77.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 11. No. 11.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. STORKS, G.C.B.

(No. 161.)

SIR, Downing Street, May 31, 1866.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter in which I have brought to the attention of the Secretary of State for War and his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief the passage in the Report of the Royal Commission which relates

Jamaica.

to the conduct of Staff Assistant-Surgeon Morris, and of Ensign Cullen, and the detachment of the 1st West India Regiment under his command, and have suggested that an immediate inquiry should be institututed into the conduct of these officers and men.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Encl. in No. 11.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Sir, Downing Street, May 30, 1866.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell to acquaint you, for the information of the Marquis of Hartington, that the following passage occurs in the Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Disturbances in Jamaica:—

"A good deal of our time was occupied in an inquiry into the case of an alleged shooting of three men "by a detachment of the 1st West India Regiment, under Ensign Cullen. The evidence was most "conflicting, and we do not feel called upon to decide upon which side the truth lay. But we think "that the character of the service is so deeply involved in a question affecting the conduct and "veracity of two officers and several men that it may well form the subject of further inquiry."

"The same observation applies to a charge of shooting a person named William Gray by Staff "Assistant Surgeon Morris.

Mr. Cardwell believes that the Marquis of Hartington and his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief will concur with him in deeming it essential that the conduct of the officers and men whose conduct is thus impugned should form the subject of a searching investigation; and as it would seem necessary to the effectiveness of the inquiry that it should be made without delay, and before any of the troops engaged or other witnesses shall have left the Island, Mr. Cardwell has thought it right, without waiting until the completion of the printing of the Report and evidence should enable him to communicate the whole to Lord Hartington, to acquaint his Lordship with this particular passage in the Report, in order that instructions may be sent to Jamaica by the mail of 1st June to institute an inquiry, and to secure the attendance of the necessary witnesses.

I have, &c.

The Under Secretary of State, War Office.

(Signed) Frederic Rogers.

No. 12.

No. 12.

Copy of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 170.)

Sir, Downing Street, June 8, 1866.

* Page 78.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 108*, of the 8th of May, enclosing copies of correspondence with Mr. Custos Salmon relative to an address presented to you by the magistrates and proprietors of the parishes of St. Elizabeth and Manchester, on the present state of the Island.

I have to express to you my approval of your letter to Mr. Salmon of the 29th April.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

No. 13.

No. 13.

Copy of a Despatch from the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P., to Governor Lieut.-General Sir H. Storks, G.C.B.

(No. 179.)

Sir, Downing Street, June 25, 1866.

* Vide papers presented Feb. 1866, Part III Page 15.

With reference to my despatch, No. 45,* of the 29th January, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a further letter from Mr. F. Vinen together with a copy of the answer which I have caused to be returned.

I request that you will report to me your opinion on his claim to compensation on account of the proceedings of the Colonial authorities towards him during the disturbances. JAMAICA.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

Enclosure in No. 13. Encl. 1. in No. 13.

SIR, 6, Chepstow Villas, Bayswater, W., June 6, 1866.

I BEG leave to call your attention to the letter I had the honor of addressing you on the 22nd of last January, in which I laid before you the particulars of the unjust imprisonment to which I was subjected in Jamaica during the months of October and November last, and also to your letter of the 29th of the same month.

In reply you were good enough to promise to forward to the Commissioners then in Jamaica the particulars of my case for investigation.

The Commissioners having presented their report I should be greatly obliged by your favoring me with the result of their inquiry, and also by your informing me what compensation I am to receive for the sufferings, injury, and loss I sustained.

I have, &c.

The Right Hon. E. Cardwell, M.P. &c. &c. &c. (Signed) F. A. B. VINEN.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

SIR, Downing Street, June 25, 1866. Encl. 2, in No. 13.

IN answer to your letter of the 6th instant, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell, to inform you that your former letter was sent to Sir Henry Storks as President of the Commission, but that the Commissioners have not reported on your application. It will now be referred to the Governor of Jamaica, to report his opinion whether any compensation is due to you from the revenues of Jamaica for the effect of any proceedings which may have been adopted towards you by the Colonial Authorities.

F. A. B. Vinen, Esq. (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

No. 14.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON to Governor Sir J. PETER GRANT, K.C.B.

(No. 24.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 25, 1866.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of Sir H. Stork's Despatch No. 132*, of the 21st of June, transmitting copies of correspondence between the custos and magistrates of St. Ann's and Mr. Justice Ker, on the subject of a letter from Mr. Ker to Governor Eyre, dated the 21st November last, which has been published amongst the papers recently presented to Parliament relative to Jamaica. * Page 85.

Mr. Ker states that in expressing an unfavourable opinion of the administration of justice in St. Ann's he did not intend to cast any imputation on the integrity or impartiality of the gentlemen of the parish who have discharged the important public duty of magistrates; but I agree with him that the existence in the minds of the people of a suspicion, even though unfounded, that justice is not fairly administered, is a very grave evil, and I think it most necessary to remove any defect in the judicial system or practice which can give rise to such a suspicion.

In view of the general revision of the entire magisterial system in Jamaica, which must immediately take place, it may be unnecessary to deal specially with the case of St. Ann's. But you will not consider yourself precluded from taking at once any such special steps as you may find necessary and practicable to secure the proper administration of justice in that district, and to establish confidence amongst the people in the impartiality of their tribunals.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c. (Signed) CARNARVON.

JAMAICA.

No. 15.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON to Governor Sir J. PETER GRANT, K.C.B.

(No. 30.)

SIR, Downing Street, July 30, 1866.

Vide Paper presented 18 June 1866.

BY Mr. Secretary Cardwell's Despatch No. 173*, of 18th of June, your predecessor was instructed to institute a careful investigation of those cases in which grave offences had been laid to the charge of civilians during the suppression of the recent disturbances in Jamaica, in order that such further proceedings might be taken as were requisite and just.

I have no doubt that this most serious and painful duty will occupy your immediate attention, but it is not the less my duty to express to you the great importance which Her Majesty's Government attach to a close and complete investigation of those cases which appear to you to call for it, and their anxiety that all classes in the Island should know that in these as in all other cases they may rely on a strict and equal administration of justice without fear or favour at the hands of the law and the representative of the Crown.

I have to instruct you to furnish me at the earliest day with a report of the proceedings which you have taken.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) CARNARVON.

No. 16.

No. 16.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON to Governor Sir J. PETER GRANT, K.C.B.

(No. 31.)

SIR, Downing Street, August 1, 1866.

* Page 73.

YOUR predecessor forwarded in his Despatch to Mr. Secretary Cardwell, No. 73*, of the 24th of March, a return of the sentences inflicted by the Special Commission of Oyer and Terminer, held at Kingston between 24th January and 9th March last, on persons implicated in the disturbances in Jamaica, or arrested on charges of sedition and treason.

I find on examination of this return that many of the sentences thus inflicted are of great severity. Thirteen men and two women are sentenced to penal servitude for life, and seven men and four women to penal servitude for 20 years, the charge being felonious riot.

I have no wish to express any doubt of the justice or propriety of sentences thus inflicted by a legally constituted tribunal; but it appears to me that as the investigation of the Royal Commission has enabled the Government to appreciate more clearly than was possible at the time the nature of the recent disturbances and the guilt of those implicated in them, it would be desirable that the proceedings of the Commission specially appointed to try those persons should now be revised; and I wish you, therefore, to call for the Judges' notes, and, after consultation with the presiding Judge under that Commission, to report your opinion whether, in any of the cases, there are grounds for remitting any portion of the sentences.

I have, &c.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant, K.C.B., &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) CARNARVON.

LONDON:
Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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